40394

Proceedings of the

Travancore Sri Mulam Assembly

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY.

FOURTEENTH SESSION.

Monday, the 10th January 1944/26th Dhanu 1119.

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

DATA ENTERED

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Monday, the 10th January 1944/26th Dhanu 1119.

The Assembly met at 12 Noon in the Council Chamber, Public Offices, with Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan-President in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls:

1. Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous*)
2. Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*Director of Public Instruction.*)
3. Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker, (*Secretary to Government.*)
4. Rajyasevapravina A. Lakshminarayana Aiyar, (*Financial Secretary to Government.*)
5. Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar, (*Director of Food Supplies.*)
6. Mr. N. K. Narayana Pillai, (*Ag. Legal Remembrancer to Government.*)
7. Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan, (*Excise Commissioner.*)
8. Dr. H. Parameswaran, (*Controller of Stationery and Printing.*)
9. Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai, (*Chief Secretary to Government.*)
10. Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Aiyar, (*Conservator of Forests*)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Purchase of rice and wheat.

1 * **MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR** (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they or their agents examine the quality and condition of wheat and rice which are being purchased from outside for local consumption?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*Additional Secretary to Government*): Yes; either through Government Officials specially appointed for the purpose or through recognised agents.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Do the recognized agents exercise their right in regard to this matter?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli cum Kartikapalli*): May I know whether the quality of wheat that is now supplied is good?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: All possible arrangements have been made for the supply of foodgrains of good quality.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): May I know why wheat is sold at a higher rate through Government agencies than the rate obtaining in the market?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have times without number entreated the honourable members of this House and the public whenever such a thing has occurred to bring that to the notice of the Government. If, for instance, I had got intimation that wheat was being sold by Government at a higher rate than the market rate, steps could have been taken within 24 hours to enquire into the matter. I cannot understand why this information should be reserved and bottled up and brought to the House now. If honourable members want a relief, the best way to proceed is to bring their complaints to the notice of the Government as soon as possible.

In this connection I may also say that Government are painfully aware that certain supplies have been atrociously bad. As a matter of fact, there was a supply of wheat flour which came in such a condition that I placed it before General Hance, Director-General of the Indian Medical Service who came here on a visit and asked him whether he would be able to consume that flour. I said so in a meeting and I threatened to give him a dinner made out of that wheat flour. General Hance has taken that wheat flour to Delhi and has promised to look into the matter. Similar supplies have come up here and we have protested. We have sometimes declined to pay or have asked for compensation in regard to those supplies. But honourable members know very well the system under which the various local Governments are working. One Government has entrusted all its supplies, procurement and distribution to a particular firm. Another Government has appointed a syndicate for the purpose as well as a firm. A third Government has appointed a well known firm of European Produce Merchants for the purpose of both buying and selling, and it is from such Governments that we are getting our supplies. The responsibility is therefore not of the Governments' but of the agencies which they employ. Thus, if we send a complaint to a particular Government, that complaint goes up to Delhi and then comes back to that Government; the Government then asks its agents and the agents send up their reply which is received by us probably after the matter has ceased to be of any live interest to anybody. We are making very desperate attempts to see that the allotted quantities are at least edible. But we are beggars and cannot be choosers. We need edible stuff and unless

the Government of India sends us that stuff we shall indeed find it rather difficult to get over our present situation. And we have impressed on the Government of India that the foodstuffs are intended for our immediate local consumption and not for any other purpose, and I think that the idea is now weighing with the Government of India.

Purchase of Rice from Sind, Baluchistan and the Punjab.

2 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any State Rice Officer was deputed for the purchase of rice in Sind, Baluchistan or the Punjab as at Tanjore ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes; in Sind and in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know the names of the officers so appointed?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Mr. Mohammed Sahib was sent to Sind and Mr. Chandrasekharan was on duty in the Punjab.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Was there any separate State representative in the Punjab while Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar was on duty in Tanjore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Mr. Chandrasekharan was representing both Cochin and Travancore in the Punjab.

Rice Mills.

3 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state the reason for prohibiting the operation of rice mills in Travancore ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the Press Note dated 2nd February 1943 issued by the Government on the subject.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know whether the honourable member refers to the Press Note dated 1st February, 1943 in this connection?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : No, Sir. It is an entirely different Press Note, which gives categorical reasons why the rice mills were closed down.

Kayal Poramboke for Punja Cultivation.

4. *MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any definite idea of the actual area of Kayal poramboke both North and South Travancore to be thrown open for Punja cultivation?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The answer is in the negative. The matter is under investigation.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : വെള്ളായണി, വേളി, കഠിനംകുളം എന്നീ ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള കായലുകളിൽ പൊതുജനോപയോഗത്തിന് ബാധകമല്ലാത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ നെൽകൃഷിക്കായി പതിച്ചോ കുത്തകപ്പാട്ടമായിട്ടോ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ വിരോധമുണ്ടോ ?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I want to make it absolutely clear that so numerous and influential have been the applications for Vellayani that the Government do not propose to lease Vellayani to anybody. As important people from many quarters have respectfully applied for reasons which are so obvious, we do not propose to touch Vellayani at present.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : വലിയ ആളുകൾക്കു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടാ. സാധുക്കളായ ആളുകൾക്കു അഞ്ചേക്കർ വീതം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു വിരോധം ഉണ്ടോ ?

PRESIDENT: We are convinced that if it comes to any *Sadhus*, it will go back to *Non-Sadhus* (Laughter).

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Do those applications include any member of this Legislature also?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I do not think that is a fair question. In the matter of applications for themselves or for their friends or relations asking for registries of lands or any other concessions, members of the Legislature are as much members of the public. They are, no doubt, bound to exercise a certain amount of restraint in asking for favour, but if they are entitled to a request that request will not be turned down solely because they are members of the House, though of course members of the House will bear all these things in mind when making those requests.

Raising the embankment at Kannankuzhi.

5. ***MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state the causes delaying the commencement of the work of raising the embankment at Kannankuzhi (Tiruvalla-Mavelikara road) and of improving the Kidangannoor section of the Pandalam-Aranmula road in spite of the express provision of funds for these works in the budget estimates for 1119 and the undertaking given by the Chief Engineer that the work would be completed before the floods in 1119?

MR. I. C. CHACKO (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Irrigation and Miscellaneous*): The delay is due to the time required for the investigation of the flood levels and irrigation requirements of the adjoining paddy fields before preparing the estimates for raising the Kannankuzhi embankment and the difficulty in settling the contract arrangements, on account of the present day abnormal conditions for improving the Kidangannoor section of Pandalam-Aranmula road.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know from the Chief Engineer whether there is any provision for raising the Kannankuzhi embankment in the Budget of 1119?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Then, how is it that the work is being delayed?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The estimate has got to be sanctioned by Government.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Did not the Chief Engineer make a promise on the floor of the House that this work would be completed before 1119 M. E.?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: I said that I would try my best to proceed with the work.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: With regard to improving the Kidangannoor section of Pandalam-Aranmula road, may I know whether there is not an express provision of Rs. 1,000 in the Budget for 1119?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Yes.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Then, how is it that the work is being delayed?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Tenders have been invited for the work and will be settled shortly.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether Government will be pleased to take steps for completing the investigations relating to flood levels and irrigation requirements?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: That has already been answered.

Rice purchased from outside.

6. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether in the rice which they purchased from outside the State and which they sell under their control within the State there is a considerable measure of loose bran, husk, mud and pebbles?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No; except in rare cases.

Distribution of Food Materials.

7. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether in the procurement and distribution of food materials they are incurring any monetary loss or having any pecuniary gain or managing without either loss or profit?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Procurement and distribution of food grains are not undertaken by Government with a view to earn profit. The position can be stated only after the transactions relating to procurement and distribution are finally wound up.

Co-operation from the members of the Legislature.

8. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are not having cordial co-operation from the members of the Legislature in response to their call for the procurement and distribution of food materials?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Government are obtaining more co-operation from certain members of the Legislature than from others but they have found no unwillingness to co-operate on the part of any member.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDHANAN NAIR : May I know, how many Taluk Committees are at present functioning in Travancore for the purpose of distribution of food materials ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Sir, that question does not arise out of this.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR : Sir, the question is whether the co-operation of the members of the Legislature was sought in the distribution of food materials and my point now is, even though there are Taluk Committees, and even though there are members of the Legislature as members of the Committee in respective places—I myself am a member—I was not invited for any meeting of the Taluk Committee. Hence my question. If that is the state of affairs, how can we co-operate ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Sir, co-operation of non-officials has been sought for the purpose of distribution of food grains. I know there are definite instances where the non-officials have come forward with their constructive aid.

PRESIDENT : Will the honourable member verify the allegation of Mr. Janardanan Nair that although he is a functionary of the Taluk Committee, he was not invited to participate in any of the meetings? If, after verification, it is found to be so, then it reveals a serious state of things. Either that Taluk committee has not met at all, or having met has avoided Mr. Janardanan Nair which again is equally serious or he had not got notice of the meeting and so forth. Will the honourable member please verify all that ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes, Sir.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalla*) : May I know from the member whether Taluk Committees are being worked in every taluk ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes, they are. I know they are working satisfactorily in certain taluks.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, as far as I know, I am not aware of a committee having functioned in Alleppey for the past 5 months.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The non-functioning of Taluk Committees was brought to the notice of the Food Advisory Committee which met a few days ago. As a result Government have passed stringent orders to the effect that there should be at least one meeting convened every month and the proceedings of that meeting forwarded to Government.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : May I know whether Government have taken any action against officers who have not regularly followed the instructions of Government issued on the subject ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: After the meeting of the last Food Advisory Committee, orders have been issued for the functioning of Taluk Committees at least once a month.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know when was such an order issued?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: About two weeks ago.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalla*): May I know, what about the taluk committee meeting at Shertalai?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The honourable member knows it very well.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: May I know whether the Government have any information about the convening of meetings at least once a month in that place?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Government have passed stringent orders to the functioning of these committees at least once every month.

PRESIDENT: I do not think that is sufficient. As honourable members have told me, there is lurid light in the manner in which these committees are functioning. I expect that officers of Government will exercise more care on the matter and see that Government orders are carried out.

Average tax.

9. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR:** Will the Government be pleased to state the average land tax including water cess per acre of paddy land in each of the taluks?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The information will be collected.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Am I to take it that the Government have not so far collected this information?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Information has to be collected in certain instances. The nature of the question is such that information has to be collected in the first instance.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Am I to take it that Government have fixed the price of paddy without taking into consideration the tax in different localities?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Settlement pattom is available with reference to each survey number and holding and the average land tax per acre cannot be ascertained without further elaborate calculations.

Quality of Milled Rice.

10. ***MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have discovered any appreciable difference between rice milled in Travancore and rice milled outside Travancore?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: No rice is milled in Travancore and hence a comparison is not possible.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : May I know whether the imported rice from outside which we now use is milled rice ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Generally it is.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Is there any difference between rice milled in Travancore and that got from outside which we now use for our consumption ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : The answer is there. No rice is milled in Travancore.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Was there any rice milled in Travancore at any time ?

MR. K. R NARAYANA AIYAR : Some months ago before the mills were closed, we were having such rice.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : Then why is it there is difference in rice milled before the mills were closed down and those which we get now ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : That depends on a number of factors.

PRESIDENT : What is the point of the honourable member ?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI : We have stopped the working of mills in Travancore whereas we are continuing to get milled rice from outside. The working of mills in Travancore was stopped for certain reasons and those are still existing. When such is the case we continue to get milled rice from outside Travancore. Why should we go in for such things, I fail to see.

PRESIDENT : The honourable members who have cared to look into the speech delivered by me at Delhi at the last Food Conference would have realised that I pleaded that all rice mills should be stopped throughout India. I knew that it was a great step which I wanted the Government of India to adopt. Subsequent to that, I have learnt that a large number of rice mills having been newly erected in certain parts of India. But we cannot possibly interfere with the arrangements made by other Provinces or States. We are in such a position. Whether it is milled rice or powdered rice or flour or anything that is called rice or no rice, we have to take it if the Government of India sends it. That is our plight.

I will presently show from the letters received from the Government of India that we are going to get barley from the Persian Gulf very shortly. Nobody here has ever known what barley is and we do not know how to make preparations with it. Supposing this Government were to say, 'we do not want barley from the Persian Gulf' which comes to 600 tons or so out of a total of 12,000 tons of grains and which supply comes in the form of a substitute for food, the Government of India will not send rice beyond what they have promised, which comes to only a third of what we require. Therefore the Governments of Travancore and Cochin are driven to this extreme, *viz.*, to accept whatever is offered by the Government of India in the name of "foodstuff". We are of course paying 50 to 70% more than we pay for rice produced here. At such a huge cost we get foodstuffs

which cannot be eaten by most people in the country. That is the position to-day and in the course of the remarks which I propose to make, I am going to suggest certain steps which have to be taken by us. I may also thank the Government of India for having started a scheme of price control at least now and for the good results that have been brought about by such a step.

In answer to what was said by an honourable member I may say at once that the working of rice mills in Travancore is a matter of domestic administration. This Government came to the conclusion that in Travancore, hand-pounding will employ a large number of people and will remunerate a certain number of women in their houses. They also came to the conclusion that whatever other parts of India may or may not do, in Travancore not only now, but so long as I have anything to do with its administration at no time will rice mills be re-established.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: My point was not that rice mills should be re-established. When we are getting only defective rice which have no nutritive value, we have necessarily to ponder over the re-opening of the mills.

PRESIDENT: That you get rice at all now is a miracle. It is not a question of defective rice either. You will notice from the letters received from the Government of India that we are getting discontented unnecessarily and that we have not taken any steps to switch on the people of Travancore from rice to barley, bajra, jowar and so forth and that we have not sufficiently exhorted our people to use those grains and to popularise the method of cooking them.. The real trouble is that the Government of India are not in a position to give more rice.

Settlement Pattom.

11. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state the average settlement pattom per acre of paddy land in each of the taluks?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The time and labour required for collecting this information is out of all proportion to its possible utility.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): Sir, may I know whether the Government have issued any instructions to the officers of the Taluks of Tovala and Agasteswaram laying down the equivalent in terms of para measure as is found in Settlement records?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The equivalent in terms of our standard para has been furnished to those officers.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know what definitely is that equivalent in terms of Nanjinad Kotta?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: As to the terms on which the Tahsildars collect paddy, I would like to have the information collected from the Taluk offices concerned.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I do not quite catch the member, Sir,

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: As to the measure in respect of which paddy has been collected, I would get the information from the Taluk offices referred to by the member.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether the Government have issued any instructions on this subject?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The rate fixed by Government is about 9 and odd standard paras per Nanjinad kotta for purpose of purchase of paddy.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the basis on which that equivalent was arrived at?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: That was based on the settlement report.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether that was not cancelled as a result of discussion?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Not for this purpose It was modified for the purpose of commutation of tax.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the basis on which the Settlement Pattom was fixed at 9 paras of standard measure?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I have already said that it was arrived at the time of the Settlement.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know whether that arrangement was not cancelled for this purpose as well?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The modification does not relate to the collection of paddy.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Then may I know whether this purpose is different from the calculation relating to the collection of paddy?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know in what way?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: There is the difference I have already pointed out.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the basis for the difference?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The equivalent in terms of standard para for a Nanjinad kotta as fixed at the settlement was slightly modified for the purpose of commutation of tax from kind into money. So far as collection of paddy is concerned for our present purpose, there is the yield and the assessment at the time of the Settlement which is termed the Settlement Pattom. Certain rules have been laid down by the Settlement Officer as a consequence of which the party concerned has to pay to Government in proportion to the yield secured per acre. The whole question was discussed at the Food Advisory Committee and the rate fixed was found to be very fair. Further, the point referred to by the member is not of practical importance, for, purchase of paddy is effected in accordance with the standard para measure and the sale price is paid at the rate of standard para.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Of course, I am aware of the payment of money for the paddy collected from the party. But when settling the Nanjinad kotta, Government have cancelled the arrangement come

to as a result of discussion. In the light of this, I wish to know on what basis the equivalent was arrived at for the purpose of collection of paddy?

PRESIDENT: The honourable Chief Secretary says that the arrangement regarding Settlement Pattom has not been cancelled for this purpose. The honourable member will submit further information on this matter on the floor of the House tomorrow morning.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Yes, Sir.

Green Manure.

12, ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any green manure from Government forests have been made available to the paddy cultivators in the taluks of Vilavankod and Kalkulam?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR (*Conservator of Forests*): Paddy cultivators in the Vilavancode and Kalkulam taluks are allowed to collect green manure from the reserves on payment of seigniorage rates.

Import of Cattle.

13. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any restriction or prohibition in British India against bringing to Travancore from places, like Vaniancolam in British India the cattle purchased by Travancoreans in the latter territory?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes. There was a petition to that effect and the matter is under correspondence with the Madras Government.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: In view of the fact, that the cultivation season is approaching, will the Government expedite the matter?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: The matter is under correspondence with the Madras Government and it will be expedited.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): പെററിഷൻ കിട്ടിയതു് എന്നാണെന്നു പറയാമോ ?

MR.. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN. തുലാം മുപ്പത്താംതീയതിയാണു്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ രീതിയിൽ മുന്നോട്ടു പോകുന്നപക്ഷം അടുത്ത വർഷത്തേക്കു കന്നുകാലികളെ കിട്ടാൻ പ്രയാസമുണ്ടാകുമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവമ്മെൻറിനറിയാമോ ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: ആണ്ടുതോറും ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിൽനിന്നും നമുക്കു വരുത്തേണ്ട കന്നുകാലികളുടെ എണ്ണം ഇന്നതാണെന്നു മദ്രാസ് ഗവമ്മെൻറിലേക്കു എഴുതിഅയച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. മദ്രാസ് ഗവമ്മെൻറിൻെറ മറുപടി പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചിരിക്കയാണു്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഏതായാലും ഇതിലേക്ക ഒരു അവസാനം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ ?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN : മദ്രാസ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ മറുപടി വന്നിട്ടു തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്താം.

PRESIDENT : There have been representations made by this Government to the Madras Government on the matter. This Government, I may also say have requested the Resident for the Madras States to discuss the matter with the Madras Government and see what can be done.

Thirparapu Diversion in the Kothayar River.

14\. ***MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI** : Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any investigation has been made about the Thirparapu diversion in the Kothayar river; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the actual length of the channel thus investigated and estimated and the probable length of such a channel up to Kollamcode ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO : (*a*) and (*b*) Investigation is being conducted. A length of 7 miles has been investigated but estimates have not been prepared as yet. The probable length of the whole channel up to Kollamcode will be about 29 miles.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : ഏഴു മൈൽ ദൂരത്തേക്ക ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ നടത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്നു. ഇതു ഒരു ശുഭദിനമാണ്. അതായതു നമ്മുടെ ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾക്ക് മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ സകല അധികാരങ്ങളും നൽകിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറ അവർകൾതന്നെ വിളവംകോട്ടു താലൂക്കിലേക്കുള്ള ഈ ഇറിഗേഷൻപദ്ധതി നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താൻ ഉടനടി ആർഡർ കൊടുക്കണം.

MR. I. C. CHACKO : എസ്റ്റിമേററ് തയ്യാറായി കിട്ടിയാൽ ഉടനെ ആ ജോലി ചെയ്യും.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഇതിൽ വലിയ ജോലി ഒന്നും ചെയ്യാനില്ല. ഏഴു മൈൽ നീളത്തിൽ പത്തടി വീതിയിൽ ഒരു തോട്ട് വെട്ടിയാൽ മതി. ഇപ്പോൾ വേലക്കാർ ധാരാളം കിട്ടുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഇതിലേക്ക വലിയ വിഷമമില്ല. വേണമെങ്കിൽ ആ ജോലി ഞാൻതന്നെ ഏററു നടത്തിക്കൊള്ളാം. (Laughter.)

Petitions filed under the Debt Relief Act.

15\. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM** : Will the Government be pleased to state whether there is any provision made or circular issued by them or the High Court for registering in the Registry Offices the final orders passed by civil courts on petitions filed under Sections

8, 9, 15 or 16 of the Debt Relief Act in cases where those petitions are based on transactions which have been registered under the Registration Act?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ag. Legal Remembrancer to Government*): The Civil Courts' Guide Rules apply to orders under the Debt Relief Act also.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know from the honourable member whether the view indicated in the answer has been communicated to the several courts in this State?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: It is only the rules in the Civil Courts' Guide that is referred to in the answer.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: My question was whether this view, namely that 'the Civil Courts' Guide Rules apply to orders under the Debt Relief Act, has been communicated by the High Court or by the Government to the several subordinate courts in the State?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: It has not been specifically communicated?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: It may be pointed out that the Civil Courts' Guide Rules have the force of law and they apply to all judicial proceedings and provisions of the Debt Relief Act.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether there are general rules prescribed?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: The general rules are laid down in the Civil Courts' Guide and they have the force of law and apply to all courts.

Time limit under the Debt Relief Act.

16. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any rule prescribing the time limit for which the proceedings under Sections 8, 9, 15 and 16 of the Debt Relief Act or the Court orders thereon have to be preserved among the Court records; and

(*b*) what is the rule, if any?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: (*a*) and (*b*) No separate rules are prescribed.

Publication of the Index of the Gazette.

17. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM**: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have considered the desirability of preparing and publishing an half-yearly or annual subject-war index of their Gazette published every week?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN (*Controller of Stationery and Printing*): Yes.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN (*Pathanamthitta*): May I know from the honourable member whether Government have been convinced of the desirability of publishing the index?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Yes, Sir.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN: May I know whether the Government have done anything in the direction?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Government have already taken the work in hand and had sanctioned an extra staff also for the purpose. The sanction for this lapsed. It was then expected that the Government Press would be able to carry out the work. But the work has again fallen into arrears and Government are going to reconsider the question and expedite the execution of the work.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know why the sanction lapsed?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: It was felt by the then Superintendent of the Government Press that he could carry on the work without the help of the extra staff sanctioned for the purpose. Hence, the Superintendent thought that after the specified period, when the period sanctioned expired, he need not press for a fresh sanction.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Will the Chief Office concerned with the work, the office above that of the Press Superintendent, keep a vigilant eye?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: It will be arranged at a very early date.

Arrangement for receiving petitions on holidays.

18. ***MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have made any, and if so, what provision for enabling parties in civil courts to secure emergent orders on urgent petitions on days like Sundays or short holidays or when the presiding officers are on leave without substitutes?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: High Court Act, IV of 1099, provides for disposal of certain applications during holidays of more than three days' duration. Rule 508 and Rule 509 of the Civil Courts' Guide provide for emergent work during the absence on leave of the Judges and Munsiffs respectively.

Rule 547, Civil Courts' Guide, prohibits judicial work on Sundays or other general holidays.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether there are any provisions for enabling the parties to obtain emergent orders on holidays?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: The existing provisions are referred to in the answer. There are no other provisions except those referred to in the answer.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether the Government will be pleased to make other provisions?

MR. N. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: That is a matter that might be taken into consideration later on.

Parur Hospital.

19. ***MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN** (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount allotted to the Parur Hospital towards diet and burial charges and the average number of patients per year and the number of deaths per year during 1118 and 1119 respectively?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER (*Secretary to Government*) :

	Dieting charges	Burial charges.	In-patients	Deaths.
	Rs.	Rs.		
1118	1,590	50	2,062	287
1119 (up to Dhanu 20th.)	400	25	593	118

Grant to students for the Midwifery Class.

20. ***MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU** (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any grant for the expenses of stay at Trivandrum is being given to any student in the newly started midwifery class by the Department for the Uplift of Backward Communities ; and

(*b*) if so, the communities to which such students belong and their native places ?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER :

(*a*) Yes, to one student.

(*b*) The pupil belongs to the Araya community (Other Hindu) and is a native of Thottapally, Ambalapuzha.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : നിർദ്ധനരായ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെ സഹായിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള സദുദ്ദേശമല്ലേ ഗവമ്മെൻറിനുള്ളതു്?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR : അതേ.

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU : ഈ വിദ്യാർത്ഥിയ്ക്കു ഗവമ്മെൻറു എന്തു സഹായം ചെയ്യുന്നു.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER :ധനസഹായം മുഴുവനും ചെയ്‌വാൻ ഗവമ്മെൻറിനെക്കൊണ്ടു് സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. ഗവമ്മെൻറിനാൽ കഴിവുള്ള സഹായങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്.

Ayurvedic Medicine.

21. ***MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR :** Will the Government be pleased to state ;

(*a*) whether any medicine for cholera is available for sale in the Sales Depot maintained by the Ayurveda Department ; and

(*b*) whether the Public Health Department has been using any such medicine in treating cholera cases ?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : In regard to part (b) of the answer, may I know why the medicine available in the Ayurveda Department has not been used by the Public Health Department for cholera cases?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER : The Public Health Department is following the allopathic system of treatment, and so that Department is not prescribing Ayurvedic medicines.

REFERENCE *re* : DEMISE OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF COCHIN.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Before the House resumes the other business before it, it is my duty to bring to the notice of this honourable House that after the date when the House adjourned on the last occasion, the country has sustained a great loss in the demise of His Highness the late Maharaja of Cochin.

He was a very learned, a very constitutional and a very firm-minded ruler. He was always filled with the idea of doing the best that he could for the benefit and advantage of the subjects entrusted to his care by providence. A great deal has been stated and stated legitimately and rightly elsewhere on the services he rendered and the confidence of the people he enjoyed. But speaking today, in Travancore, it is our primary and elementary duty to realise that the late ruler of Cochin was foremost in trying to implement the idea of close and continuous co-operation in matters, large and small, administrative and otherwise, between Travancore and Cochin. And if, to-day, Travancore and Cochin have not experienced the same troubles and suffering to the same aggravated extent as other provinces and other localities have suffered, it is not to a small extent due to that spirit of comradeship and co-operation manifested by His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin and his trusted adviser, Mr. Dixon, and after Mr. Dixon, Sir George Boag, towards Travancore. As a matter of fact it is of great significance that Travancore and Cochin have enjoyed the presence and stimulus of rulers who have devoted their whole lifetime for the welfare of the public. I think it is our duty to express our deep sense of the loss sustained by the country by the demise of the lamented Ruler of Cochin in the usual manner by standing in our seats.

(The motion was passed, all the members standing in their seats).

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

PRESIDENT : I have received a short notice question which I have handed over to the Chief Secretary. He desires to get the necessary materials for answering and the short notice question will be taken up tomorrow.

I have received certain notice of motions for adjournment of the House. This House sits only to-day and tomorrow. There is no doubt that some of these motions are important and deserve discussion. I am going to ask the honourable members of the House whether it will not do to choose two out of these motions and discuss them one to-day and one tomorrow. I shall read the motions and take the sense of the House. Otherwise I shall have to go through the ordinary course of putting the question "is it objected to or is it not objected to" etc.

1. MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation that has arisen out of the delay in the payment of the War Allowance to the aided teachers in Primary Schools and Primary sections attached to other schools, in the State as ordered in the G. O. R. O. C. No. 2807/43/Edn., dated 23rd November 1943 owing to the opposition of certain managements to the scheme of direct payment and to the contribution of a part of the Allowance as contemplated in the above G. O."

2. MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN :

"I request for leave of the House to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the serious situation created in the State by the Tapioca Control Orders."

3. MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN :

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the necessity for cultivating paddy through Government agency and for coercing the people for not allowing lands lying waste in the different parts of the State."

There is a resolution of Mr. Kochukora Tharakan on the same subject. This is therefore ruled out.

4. MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned for discussing an urgent matter of public importance, viz., the necessity of consulting with and securing the active co-operation of the various Kara Committees and Pakuthy Committees in the matter of the collection of paddy and the distribution of food materials in pursuance of the rationing scheme that is to be shortly started."

5. MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP ;

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the _anic, distress, difficulty, anxiety

[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup.]

> and loss experienced by the agriculturists of Kuttanad in not getting sufficient regular supply of Crude Oil, and kerosene for working engines to bale out water from fields so as to sow seeds in time, in spite of the endeavours of the Government as a consequence of which about 33,000 acres of field have not yet been drained and seeds sown till this date, and to suggest means for the future."

Of the 4 admissible motions the honourable members may select two and I shall abide by the sense of the House.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): The first two may be taken up, *i. e.* about schools and Tapioca Control Order.

PRESIDENT: I suppose that this is the general sense of the House.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: I do not agree with that suggestion. I want my motion to be discussed.

PRESIDENT: A statement will be made by the Chief Secretary on the subject tomorrow. The honourable member will find that there has been some correspondence in the matter and the Companies have been urged by Government to do what is necessary and they have generally agreed to do so. There has been a certain amount of criss-cross work. I shall give permission to the honourable member and to those who are interested in the subject to put questions to the Chief Secretary after he makes his statement tomorrow. Will that be all right?.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: I agree, Sir.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN: കരക്കമ്മിററിയെപ്പററിയുള്ള എന്റെ പ്രമേയം വളരെ "അർജൻറാ"ണ്. അതുകൊണ്ട് അതുംകൂടി പര്യാലോചനയ്ക്കെടുക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അപേക്ഷ.

PRESIDENT: After all I can go only by the general sense of the House. One way of doing it will be for the honourable member to raise in some manner a question tomorrow. I shall have that short notice question answered and by means of supplementary questions or otherwise the matter may be clarified.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla*): The time for discussion of the adjournment motions has not been fixed.

PRESIDENT: As usual they will be discussed at 3-30 P. M to-day and 3-30 P. M. tomorrow.

REFERENCE RE: REPORTING OF PROCEEDINGS.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, before we proceed further, I wish to make one submission. With regard to Clause 12 of the Medical Practitioners Bill, I moved an amendment No. 104 which was really carried in the House. Two months after the House rose, I received a copy of my speech which is the long-hand rendering of the shorthand notes. That long-hand version stated that my amendment was put to vote and lost, though really it was carried. I naturally put in the correct version and sent it for incorporation. Subsequent

to that, I received a communication from the Secretary to the Assembly that my amendment was put to vote and lost and that therefore my correction could not be accepted. Whatever that may be, Sir, the House knew that the amendment was carried. I am now referring to page 849 of the Assembly proceedings wherein the amendment is recorded as having been put to vote and lost. As a matter of fact my amendment was accepted both by Dr. Tirumurthi and Dr. Ravi Varma who were in charge of the Bill. It is this aspect of the matter that I want to bring to your notice.

PRESIDENT: I will go into the question and give my answer on it.

ANSWERING OF QUESTIONS.--COMPLAINT RE:

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: One other point, Sir. We have sent in a large number of questions within the short time after the receipt of the notice of the meeting. But there were only 21 questions for today's business and they were answered within half an hour. If the Secretary or whoever is responsible for the inclusion of quest on in the agenda....

PRESIDENT: More questions will be included for answers on the next day.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: My point is that out of 97 questions or so sent up only 21 were put in for being answered. Was it because answers were received for those 21 questions alone or some more were ready but not answered?

RAJYASEVAPRAVIKA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Because of the intervention of Christmas holidays, more answers were not forthcoming.

PRESIDENT: I may say that it was in order that I may have a discussion in this House on the general question of the food problem that I took the liberty of summoning a meeting of the House before I went to Delhi, because it was considered necessary that authorities at Delhi should realise what exactly this House feels with regard to the matters such as the effect of rationing and the steps taken towards the attainment of it. My first idea was to have the meeting summoned some time towards the end of the month or the beginning of February, but I had to modify that arrangement. Hence the meeting at the present time.

REFERENCE RE: DELAY IN THE PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: കഴിഞ്ഞ കർക്കടകമാസത്തിൽ നടന്നഅസംബ്ലിയുടെ പ്രൊസീഡിംഗ്സ് ഇതേവരെ മെമ്പർമാർക്ക് അയച്ചു കൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ല.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The Secretary tells me now that all the copies of the proceedings have been placed on the table.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: We received most of them only after coming to the House today.

PRESIDENT: Is the House so particular of this matter?

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: At least some of us are. My point is that the Chief Secretary could not simply say that all the copies have been distributed.

PRESIDENT: But you say that the copies were distributed only today.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: Sir, I have not received my copy of the proceedings.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I will enquire into the matter.

MESSAGES FROM THE SRI CHITRA STATE COUNCIL.

SECRETARY: Sir, I beg to report that the following Messages have been received from the Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council:—

> "Under Rule 42 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I am directed to inform you that the Sri Chitra State Council at its meetings held on the 12th August 1943 and the 14th August 1943 agreed without any amendment to the following Bills which were passed by the Sri Mulam Assembly at its meetings held on the 4th August 1943, the 5th August 1943 and the 6th August 1943:—

1. The Anchal Act (Amendment) Bill.
2. The Travancore Sale of Goods Act (Amendment) Bill.
3. The Travancore High Court Act (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
6. The Travancore Medical Practitioners' Bill.
7. The Travancore Special Marriage and Succession Bill.

BILLS ASSENTED TO BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA.

SECRETARY: Sir, I beg to report that the following Bills have received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja:

1. The Anchal Act (Amendment) Bill.
2. The Travancore Sale of Goods Act (Amendment) Bill.
3. The Travancore High Court Act (Amendment) Bill.
4. The Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill.
6. The Travancore Medical Practitioners' Bill.
7. The Travancore Special Marriage and Succession Bill.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

PRESIDENT: Under sub-rule (2) of Rule 3 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I nominate Messrs. T. K. Velu Pillai and J. W. Tolson to the Panel of Chairmen for this session of the Assembly.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

MR. A. LAKSHMINARAYANA AYYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Under Rule 76 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under Section 32 of Act II of 1108.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
Budget—1118 M. E.		
VII. P.W.D. Capital Account outside the Revenue Account- 50. P. H. E. Civil Works.	3,93,149	For meeting the additional expenditure on works.
VIII. 38. Electrical Works to Government buildings.	2,010	For electrification of the newly constructed cells in the Mental Diseases Hospital, Oolampara.
	11,600	do. do. of staff quarters and two additional wards attached to the Tuberculosis Hospital, Nagercoil.
XXIV. 29. A. Medical (b) dieting charges	10,160	To meet the increased expenditure under dieting charges due to high prices of articles.
XXVI. 30. Public Health and Sanitation, C. Prevention of Epidemics.	15,000	For preventive measures against plague and other epidemics.
XXX. 35. Miscellaneous Departments (1) Museum and Government Gardens.	2,954	For purchase of certain works of Art, Transport charges of the exhibits to the Shankumukhom Palace, etc.
(2) Broadcasting.	6,000	For expenditure other than capital expenditure in connection with broadcasting incurred by the University and the Telephone Departments.

Demand.	Amount in Rupees.	Particulars.
Budget—1119 M. E.		
VII. 36. P. W. D. (d) Works.	50,000	For construction of a building for the Advocate-General's Office at Vanchiyoor.
XVIII. 24. Education Government Grant to the Travancore University.	20,000	For the scheme for the exhibition of educational films.
XIX. 24. Education C. Primary Schools (b) grant-in-aid to Primary Schools	2,29,320	For payment of war allowance to teachers in aided schools.
XX. 25. Agriculture (f) Experimental Farms and Manure Depots.	5,605	For the scheme for composting town refuse into manure.
XXXV. Debt Head—III. C. (a) (3) Departmental advances.	4,70,000	For purchasing and stocking manure for sale to ryots.
I. Commercial services.	91,604	For expenditure in connection with the Vanchi Clay Mines and Refinery.
Loss on investment.	1,27,232	On account of loss sustained by Government in respect of shares held in the Central Banking Corporation of Travancore.

DEWAN-PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT RE: FOOD SITUATION.

PRESIDENT: As has been customary ever since the food crisis has begun, I feel it my duty to place before this honourable House the steps taken by Government in order to cope with the very difficult situation with which this State has been and is confronted—and I am deliberately using the word 'is confronted'—because I do not desire honourable members here or the public outside to run away with the impression that the crisis has passed or even is passing. After I have made my observations, honourable members will see exactly what our position is. Honourable members will forgive me if I begin by setting out certain figures which will speak for themselves. From November 1943 up to October 1944, the allotments which have been made to Travancore and Cochin are as follows:—Rice from Orissa that is to come *via* Madras—in other words, Madras Presidency has been informed by the Government of India that they expect Madras Government to supply us with 30,000 tons and that they will make good that quantity to Madras by supplying them from Orissa. We are not yet quite aware of what answer has been furnished by the Madras Government to this proposal. We have not yet been officially told whether the Madras Government have agreed to supply the 30,000 tons to Travancore. Such supply, as I have endeavoured to point out more than once would be both expedient and economical. Instead of our having to get rice, wheat, bajra and millet from Kashmir, Bahawalpur and the Punjab, if Madras could supply us and then get what it supplies to us from other sources, that would be the best method. But the Madras Government is a separate Government working under its own constitution under the Government of India Act and the limits within which the Government of India can operate are fairly well-known, although quite recently the action taken by Field-Marshal Lord Wavell, the present Viceroy of India, in regard to Bengal, Sind and the Punjab has been of a most heartening character.

Now, out of the 30,000 tons allotted from Orissa which is to come *via* Madras, Travancore's share is 24,000 tons. From Baluchistan we get 6,400 tons. From Sind we get 72,800 tons, from the Punjab 6,400 tons, from Coorg 4,800 tons and from Bahawalpur 4,000 tons and from Kashmir, 1,600 tons. The total, therefore, is 120,000 tons of rice allotted to us from November 1943 to October 1944. Although it will be noticed that the bulk of the rice comes from Sind, it was found practically impossible to get that rice transported from Sind by railway because in order to enable Sind rice to come to Trivandrum, it has to go from Karachi or Hyderabad to Lahore, from Lahore to Delhi, from Delhi to Nagpur and to Madras, from Madras to Quilon or Cochin and from Cochin or Quilon to Trivandrum. So, attempts have been made and are being made to

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get as much as possible of those supplies by sea and by canal. So far as the sea is concerned, negotiations are practically complete. I shall not today dogmatise further than that negotiations have been completed. Negotiations are practically completed with a very well-known firm of all-India importance, a steam navigation company, for the purpose of giving certain vessels which will bring the grain direct from Karachi not only to Cochin, but to Alleppey, Quilon and Trivandrum. I am also glad to say that the Excise Commissioner has succeeded in persuading a very well-known merchant and shipping agent in Tuticorin to give us some boats for the purpose. Our own schooners and crafts are now loading rice in Cochin to be brought to this State and other boats also are being commandeered. I may further add that the Government of India have had their pointed attention drawn to this very serious handicap. Today quite a substantial share of our foodstuffs is lying either at the wharf at Karachi or in Cochin. The result is that there is bound to be a certain amount of theft, wastage and damage at the wharf. There is bound to be a certain amount of damage on the way if they are to come in small *vallams* and therefore it is to the advantage of everybody—including the Government of India which may have to reimburse us if this rice goes away—that ocean going craft bring the rice as directly as possible from Karachi to Trivandrum. Although the full details cannot be published just now for reasons not unconnected with the war, I am glad to say that the Government of India have consented to help us very greatly in the transport of rice by sea from Karachi to Trivandrum. Just this morning I have received news of a most encouraging character. When the time is ripe for publishing it, when the thing begins to operate and when there is no danger in the publication of the details, it will be published. But I can assure the honourable members that the problem is being solved with the active concurrence of the Government of India.

In regard to rice from Baluchistan, Bahawalpur, the Punjab and Kashmir, transport by rail is perhaps the only way possible. It is not entirely without hope that I say that even now this Government have not ceased their efforts in making the Government of India realise that it would be better for Bahawalpur and the Punjab to supply the Central Provinces, for instance, and the Central Provinces to supply Madras, and for Madras, to supply us. If the Government of India will kindly make up their mind to tell the Central Provinces and Madras to send us their supply of rice which in turn will be reimbursed to them, it will be an advantage. That is so far as rice is concerned.

So far as millets are concerned—and I want the honourable members to mark these figures—the supply is as follows. Bahawalpur 18,400 tons; Khairpur (a place in the Punjab) 2,400 tons and the Punjab 4,000 tons. So in all we are to get 24,800 tons.

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Maize.—Punjab States 5,600 tons and the Punjab 4,000 tons. It may be asked what Travancore can do with maize. The answer is, "what can Travancore do if it does not even get maize?" That is why I am reading these figures to the honourable members and that is why the Government have accepted to take maize, a total of about 9,600 tons, from the Punjab States.

Pulses from Hyderabad, 8,000 tons.

Mealie Samp (maize, broken rice size) from overseas—*i. e.*, from Australia and Africa—we are to get 4,000 tons.

Barley from Persian Gulf 1,600 tons.

Milk and milk products. 1,10,000 lbs. In this connection, I am very glad to pay a tribute of homage to the Government of India and to the Director-General of the Indian Medical Services. I am glad to announce to this House that so far as milk and milk products which are agreed to be supplied from South Africa to India, a large proportion, more than half of it, is devoted to Travancore, so that it will be seen that the utilisation of the milk and milk products for nursing and expectant mothers in the various hospitals may do a great deal to strengthen the stamina of the people which on account of the troubles which they have passed through is getting to be less and less.

Of the Australian wheat, we are to get 12,658 tons. This is our food position from November 1943 to October 1944. In other words, out of a total of about 210,000 tons, 120,000 tons alone are rice. The rest range from millets, maize, pulses, mealie samp, barley, milk and wheat.

Now it is therefore necessary that we in Travancore should make up our minds to substitute as far as possible other kinds of food grains instead of rice. I have just received a communication to this effect: "The normal deficit of Travancore and Cochin in rice is 4,50,000 tons a year." The quotas allotted to these two States for the year from November 1943 to October 1944 are roughly about 2,00,000 tons. That is, we are going to get little less than one half of our total requirements, from outside. And that is the utmost. In addition, the following rabi grains are likely to be received - about 75,000 tons of wheat and pulses. There is, therefore, a deficit of nearly 2,00,000 tons. I would draw the attention of the honourable members to this sentence. "The Government of India are aware that the demand of Travancore and Cochin is chiefly for rice and will do whatever they can to increase the present rice allotment to the States. On present indications, the best that can be hoped for is an additional quota of about 20,000 to 40,000 tons which will reduce the deficit to 150,000 or 170,000 tons. This fact that there is a deficit of the order of 150,000 tons, which cannot be supplied in rice, must be faced by the State Government and the people made acquainted with the position so that they may

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realise that they will have to go without the full amount of the grain that is needed unless they are prepared to eat substitute food grains instead of rice."

There is of course considerable prejudice to be overcome. People are inclined to be conservative in the matter of food and are sometimes even prepared to go with less than the amount that they usually take rather than take unfamiliar food. Then follow the words equally important:—

> "The Director-General of the Indian Medical Services has recently visited the States of Travancore and Cochin and has recorded his impressions which show that if progressive deterioration in the health of the inhabitants of Travancore and Cochin is to be avoided, a change in the dieting system is imperative. While it is deplorable from the point of view of administration that foodgrains of a kind which people want are not available in sufficient quantities, it is not so regrettable from that of nutrition, since it means that people will be turning from rice to another grain superior in nutritive value and will, therefore, be getting nearer to a balanced diet. If this change be permanent, the scarcity in Travancore and Cochin will not be without its favourable side. It is, however, essential that, firstly, the Government of Travancore and Cochin should themselves realise that it is impossible to meet their requirements in rice and, secondly, that they do everything possible to encourage the use of substitute foodgrains for rice to combat the conservatism of even the educated classes to a change of diet."

I may mention here that I received an application from the University Students' Hostel some three days ago that an exception should be made in their case, that wheat or pulses should not be supplied to them but only rice as they are apparently attending to very heavy brain-exhausting labour. If the students do not set an example to the State in this matter, no body else will.

> "The chief substitutes for rice which have been recommended by the Director-General of the Indian Medical Services are wheat, millets and pulses. All these grains have a higher protein content than rice. In addition an extension of the cultivation of green vegetables wherever possible, should be encouraged. The Government of India understand that the reluctance to the taking of bajra or wheat as substitutes for rice is gradually disappearing and consider that this tendency should be encouraged as much as possible."

"The figures given in paragraph 2 of this letter will show that on the supplies already arranged, or likely to be arranged shortly, Travancore and Cochin are in deficit to the extent of about 150,000 tons. On present expectations it is impossible to meet any portion of this deficit in rice but there is a good prospect of further supplies of wheat, millets, bajra and gram being made available. Before making an actual allotment the Government of India would like to know what further quantities of these foodgrains the Travancore and Cochin Governments would like to be allotted to them, keeping in mind the facts that these foodgrains are richer in protein content than rice, that fairly large supplies can be allotted immediately, that more rice is not likely to be available and that the alternative, if the supplies of these grains are refused, is that the health of the people of Travancore and Cochin is likely to deteriorate further."

Now, it is impossible to be clearer than that, and we cannot possibly take objection to the peremptory character of that letter, because I am in a position to assure this honourable House that from the Viceroy downwards, everybody has been bestowing earnest personal attention on this question of supplying Travancore and Cochin with rice to the largest extent possible. That they failed is not their mistake; that they cannot supply more to us of rice, is a matter which is beyond controversy and therefore it behoves us immediately to take such steps as appear to be necessary in order to familiarise the people with the modes of cooking and of use of those other grains.

I may add a word of personal experience. For many months now I have practically given up the use of rice. I am using wheat and, to a certain extent, other things which are frightening to the people such as bajra, and I have found, personally speaking, no deleterious or injurious consequences. I am aware, however, that the cooking of bajra is a difficult business. It requires more firewood; it requires more thorough cooking; but what is the alternative? We have quite recently made an experiment. The Indian Tea Market Expansion Board has at its disposal a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs per year for advertisement purposes, *viz.*, for advertising in India and elsewhere the use and the benefit of tea and the importance of consuming tea in larger and larger quantities. Honourable members may have noticed those beaming smiles that look upon us through the pages of the newspapers, of housewives being thoroughly contented because they have excess of tea. That advertisement has apparently been of some use, because they say as a result of that, the sale of tea has increased considerably. But they are also given permission to use other articles by way of adjuncts to tea—*bajee*, *uppumavu* and *dosai*. I have succeeded in getting the Tea Market Expansion Board establish canteens at all industrial centres. There is one centre especially next to the P.W.D.

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Workshops in Trivandrum, another near the Rubber Factory, another in Quilon. There will be canteens established in Kottayam, Alwaye and Alleppey where they will be preparing various things out of bajra, wheat, millet and gram and sell them to people, to factory workers and other workers—at cheap rates. But that is only touching the fringe of the problem. Every honourable member of this House, every member of the public of Travancore has, until the crisis passes, to make up his or her mind to be a kind of missionary for the purpose of preaching "eat less rice and more of other foodgrains." I have sought to say elsewhere, I have made it clear in Delhi—that I do consider that this shortage from which we are suffering, these difficulties of ours, will continue for the next five, six or seven years. I do not know whether honourable members have ever read what I have said elsewhere which has not been contradicted by anybody, that in order to re-cultivate the fields of Burma even after the conquest of Burma, the labouring population, which has fled from Burma and is now scattered all over India and elsewhere has to be taken back. If Indian labour is to go back to Burma, the question of their political and economic status in a self-governing Burma will have to be decided. The matter has been pending solution for 10 years and even assuming that dynamic personalities will be grappling with the problem in less than two years, after the conquest of Burma, after they go back and cultivate fields in Burma, they will have to rebuild all the boats which are being bombed now. All the godowns, granaries and many of the factories are all blown up. All the boats are either commandeered or being destroyed, day in and day out. As readers will remember, all the rice in Burma comes to the interior by boats through Akyab. To re-establish that trade will take another three years and at the end of that, Burma will prefer to say that they will supply China instead of India because they are akin to each other. Not only that—the famine belt of China is much more extensive. It is more extensive than in India. Thirty to forty million people are dying of starvation there whereas it is only twenty millions here. Therefore that international consideration may induce Burma to supply their rice to China rather than to India. Travancore and Cochin will have to take note of these international problems. We have been drawn into international maelstrom, whether we like it or not. We must realise that for the next five, six or seven years this problem of rice supply and the feeding of the people is an over-head problem and will have to be met in four ways; firstly, by intensive cultivation; secondly, by extension as far as possible; thirdly, by substitution of other foodgrains for rice, because in the matter of other grains, most Provinces of India are in surplus; and last but not least, by so rebuilding our industrial organisation, that we may get more money to buy any rice available.

On this question I may say—I am very glad to be able to announce—that Sind rice is being sold at Rs. 2 less from today. For a long time the idea of this Government was to press very strongly

the need for control. "Export price for rice reduced Rs. 2 per maund from first January." This is the telegram of the Sind Government. This would make a considerable difference in the price of the rice. Considering that more than one half of our total supply is from Sind, this will make a very welcome difference. That is the first instalment I hope and trust, of that policy of price control which it is the object of the present Viceroy to inaugurate. There has been a Price Control Conference in Delhi where the surplus Provinces were represented. Now, honourable members are aware that I am proceeding by air, to Delhi on the 14th for the purpose of meeting the Government of India on certain post-war problems. One of the problems naturally will be that of the post-war situation with regard to food and such attempts as possible will be made on behalf of the Travancore Government for the purpose of getting this policy of price control implemented. What is happening today is absolutely chaotic. We pay 18 or 19 rupees here. We pay rupees 30 in Sind, 35 in Bahawalpur, 36 in the Punjab. We pay some other figure in Orissa, some other in Madras. What we have to do and what we have done is to proceed on one basis. This Government do not wish to make one single pie of profit out of the food situation; but we cannot afford to incur any loss and we have proceeded on that basis, because if the loss is calculated it would be more than this State could afford to pay. I shall give certain figures. Government have invested till the end of Vrischigom 1119 a sum of Rs. 650·17 lakhs on the purchase of foodgrains, against which the total receipts by sales amounted to Rs. 362·95 lakhs, leaving a balance of Rs. 287·22 lakhs to be accounted for on the first of Dhanu 1119.

On local paddy what we have done is that we have invested Rs. 90·68 lakhs and realised Rs. 53·34 lakhs. As I have already pointed out the amount spent on imports from outside is Rs. 559·49 lakhs and the amount realised Rs. 309·61 lakhs, so that the total balance now to be realised stands at Rs. 287·22 lakhs. The value of local paddy with the Tahsildars is 42 lakhs of rupees and the value of imported commodities on 1-5-1119 is Rs. 250 lakhs. The cash with Tahsildars is 5 lakhs of rupees. Therefore, the total comes to Rs. 297·56 lakhs. Now, to this sum, has to be added the amount due to Government from purchasing agents. The value of such stock is about Rs. 15 lakhs. The net result will be that we have an asset of Rs. 303 lakhs. Thus the figures which we have indicated show the astronomic character that these transactions bear in the usual negotiations and transactions of the Government of Travancore. Until the crisis overcame us, we were dealing in thousands of rupees or tens of thousands of rupees. But now we have to gamble—I am using that expression deliberately—with crores, and unless we do that, there is no salvation for us.

Now, the position, therefore, is this : We cannot afford to lose and therefore we have to fix prices in such a manner that we have to pool all the resources and find out at what rate we can sell in order

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that we might not get a profit but not incur a loss. That is the procedure which this Government have undertaken and will undertake.

Closely connected with this problem is the problem of rationing. So far as I can say, and subject to what honourable members may have to say, the rationing in the City of Trivandrum has, on the whole, worked well. None of the reports that I hear are wholly adverse though at the same time I must say that there are complaints off and on. Rationing in Trivandrum Corporation was introduced on 1-5-1119. The population, as per the census conducted for the purpose is 143,000, and the units allowed for the whole City for the first fortnight are 243,927. Paddy, rice, wheat and bajra have been notified as rationed articles for the City. The value of one unit is 4 *nazhis* of food grains, of which 5/8 is given as rice, 2/8 as wheat and 1/8 as bajra. I may say that in view of the reports that I have now heard, these proportions will have to be modified. The preliminary work for introducing State-wide rationing is progressing satisfactorily. Rationing Officers have been appointed for the Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey and Kottayam Municipalities as in the case of Trivandrum City and the Tahsildars assisted by full time subordinates are functioning there. The rationed articles and the value of unit are the same in the City and mofussil.

Let us now come to what we have done within our State. For one year from the middle of Dhanu 1118 till the middle of Dhanu 1119 Government expected to purchase the quantity of one crore of paras of paddy on quota and excess bases from land-holders and cultivators in the State. Due to failure of crops and other reasons the anticipated quantity could not be purchased. For the year beginning from January 1944 it is estimated that a quantity of one and a quarter crores of paras of paddy can be purchased on behalf of Government. It is hoped that, as a consequence of the enhancement of the price of paddy to B. Re. 1-8-0, better arrangements for purchase, detection of illicit transport and secret hoardings and greater co-operation with the public, a substantial portion of this estimated figure will be collected. That is so far as grain stocks are concerned.

There is, apparently, some kind of discontent in certain quarters on account of the tapioca control order. I grant that Government were first reluctant to introduce any tapioca control because that commodity should circulate freely in the State of Travancore, it being the last staff of life and the last refuge of the poor man. But what has been the result? The Excise Commissioner's report from time to time pointed out that important and influential quarters were manufacturing daily in their houses large quantities of tapioca flour. Let me read the report; "The manufacture of tapioca flour into pearls which resemble sago is going on in every household. The party so manufacturing the stuff do not keep more than 10 lbs. of tapioca

powder so as to avoid the penal provision of the law. The stuff so prepared is taken in quantities of one pound and less to places outside the State *viz.*, Cochin and British India, where it is in great demand. It is selling there nine times or eight times higher than the price in Travancore. Under the Government Notification dated 18-11-1942 the preparation and possession of tapioca flour up to a maximum of 10 lbs. were permissible. Hence the possession of tapioca flour up to 10 lbs. or the possession of sago up to 10 lbs. was not an offence, as the pearls manufactured from the permissible quantity of 10 lbs. was not meant for local consumption. Though, therefore, the quantity of stuff manufactured is below 10 lbs. it is an infringement of the spirit of the law. If this is what is being done by persons who ought to know better, in sheer defiance and in flagrant contravention of the elementary duties of patriotism, what is to be done? If these practices do not cease—we know certain names, but I do not propose to mention any names and if no other consideration than that of pity for our own people will not enable men to get only their legitimate profit from tapioca at this time, it will not be tapioca control, and whatever may be the risk and the difficulty, it will be stored and the entire monopoly will be with the Government. It will then mean that I shall have perhaps to quadruple the staff. I shall have to quadruple the staff of the Revenue Department. I am already going to double the staff of the Police and Excise Departments. Perhaps I will have to quadruple the staff of all the departments, and that wasteful, that extravagant, that needless expenditure, can be ascribed only to the lack of the patriotic impulse in certain quarters in Travancore. I trust it will not be necessary to go further than we have done, but that we could adopt any other expedient in the face of this daily smuggling, daily pilfering from the stomaches of the people and the daily misappropriation is a thing which cannot be gainsaid.

Incidentally there are two or three things that I have to mention. I was very pained to hear statements made on the floor of the House to-day that this or that Taluk committee did not work and that the co-operation of this or that member of the Legislature had not been sought and obtained. That, to my mind, is a certificate of unfitness on the part of the Government to discharge its duty and I regard those statements, if proved correct after verification, to be a legitimate vote of censure on the Head of the Administration and everybody connected with the administration of the State. I accept it in that spirit. If it is found that these Taluk Committees are not summoned and made to do some work at least once a month, the persons in charge of these committees will not be in their places. That is an absolute fact and I want this to be made as public as possible. If there are indications, in certain quarters, of personal prejudices between officers and members of the Legislature — I quite remember there are— and I have received complaints that so long as such and such a man is working in such and such a locality it would be *infra dig* on the part of member

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A or member B to attend that meeting of the Taluk or Kara Committee—it will not be possible to deal with such a state of things. All of us have to work with people of all sorts, and in all conditions and I trust honourable members, while blaming the servants of the public and Government servants for their non-co-operation will not give an example of non-co-operation among themselves. However it is from them that we should get complaints. But, what do we find? We find that there are certain visitors to the State from outside and certain philanthropic agencies who are working or purporting to work in our midst. They put forward certain contentions which might receive very great publicity shortly. But I shall deal with them in advance. I have been told, for instance, that the elementary duty of this Government is to give free meals not to a few selected people through the Vanchi Poor Fund and other associations of that kind in Trivandrum, Kottayam, Alleppey and elsewhere but to people throughout the State. When that statement was made to me, I referred the gentleman to our Administration Report. There are to-day 770,000 boys and girls attending educational institutions, and I asked the honourable member whether he wanted only school children to be fed or whether he would be content to have other children of the same age, whose parents were too poor even to send them to school, fed in the relief centres. It was then no doubt admitted somewhat reluctantly that the latter kind of children are also entitled to some consideration. Our literary population is about 47 per cent. and together with the number of children who are too poor to be sent to school we get about 15 lakhs of children to be fed every day. I then asked whether one or two annas a day might do for feeding each one of these children. That comes to about a lakh of rupees per day. That means 30 lakhs of rupees per month, and 360 lakhs of rupees per year. I, therefore, pointed out that if these 360 lakhs of rupees were to be spent on midday meals to the children, the other work of the administrative departments might have to be suspended for some time. But that was a matter in which we could not carry the argument much further. But, assuming that my calculations are wrong, and that many of these young people are very rich or well-to-do and could get enough funds to feed themselves, then, let us say that 2/3 of the young people in the State are so rich that they may not want free midday meals at the centres. Even then, the cost of feeding the rest of the children would come to about a crore and a half rupees. I hope that this argument will satisfy the honourable member who put me that question and made that suggestion, but I am not sure.

It was put to me that there was not enough of sugar and jaggery in the coastal areas. The people who made complaints in this regard have come here for an expert decision. Apparently some deputations approached those people and said:—"What, this Government is making a lot of money out of the Travancore Sugars and

Chemicals but yet it does not supply enough sugar and jaggery." It was also stated that our tapioca control was really the best way of starving the people of the country, because the Government apparently wanted to corner tapioca for the purpose of manufacturing tapioca starch and flour and supplying them to the mills in Bombay. However it was necessary on the part of the Government to control to a certain extent the dealings in tapioca. The abovesaid criticisms will be nullified if the Taluk and the District Committees could carry on with their work amicably. I am making an appeal to the members of this honourable House and through them to the public throughout the State to co-operate in this matter with the members of such committees in order to make this scheme a success. Before I pass on to the next subject there is one other aspect which I must point out here. Honourable members must realise that the work that a Government servant has to perform to-day is very different from that for which he was recruited and for which he has been trained. Whether a Secretariat Clerk or even a Tahsildar or an Excise subordinate or a Police subordinate, almost everyone of these persons is now to be engaged in the work of procurement of rice, the movement of rice, the persuasion or the coercion to be utilised for the purpose of getting rice from recalcitrant quarters. I must now place on record my personal sense of deep gratitude and thankfulness to the servants of the several branches of the public service who have, at a time of great stress and stringency, done good work in addition to their normal duties and made this experiment the little success that it has been. What success has attended us has been stated by persons who have visited other Provinces and States. It is not for us to give a certificate to ourselves. But I believe it is generally conceded that imperfect as it is, full of scope for improvement as there is, the Travancore scheme of rationing, collection and distribution has saved Travancore from some of the calamitous consequences which a shortage of foodstuffs has entailed elsewhere. That is all that I have to say on the general food situation.

With regard to the grow more food campaign two or three things have to be stated. Firstly, I should again draw the attention of the honourable members of this House to what the representative of the Chinese Agricultural Commission recently stated. He said that the Government of China kept a reserve of 6 per cent of the total production of wheat and rice in the country. This stock was used by Government to control market prices by releasing the grain wherever prices showed a tendency to rise. I have written to the representative regarding the aims of Government on this matter. The point is that the average yield of rice per acre in China is 1,980 lbs. and of wheat 1,000 lbs., about 2½ times the yield in India. This was attributed by the Head of the Chinese Agricultural Mission, which is now in India, mainly to the use of manure and the very careful conservation of the manure by the Chinese peasant. That is why we are and have been so anxious to start the manufacture of chemicals and fertilisers as soon as possible, and, as honourable members know, a company has been recently

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registered. The Government of Travancore have agreed to contribute 50 per cent of the shares and I am glad to say that although at first the response from the State was not satisfactory a great deal of demand came from the State towards the period of closing of the call for shares.

We have also been fairly successful in our attempts to deal with the coir trade, and the Government of India have now agreed to deal exclusively with the Governments of Travancore and Cochin for their coir requirements. In other words, the Government of India will not place their orders with private individuals or with anybody in India. 90 per cent of the whole of the requirements of the Government of India are given to Travancore and Cochin, and a committee has been appointed which will duly carry out all the necessary arrangements in connection with the manufacture and supply to the Government of India of all coir requirements. Cochin and Travancore are acting hand in hand in this matter and I am glad to say that the orders that have been given in pursuance of this arrangement are most encouraging.

Next I wish to deal with a question that has been raised more than once. That is, the throwing open of certain localities for cultivation. The policy of the Government has been indicated more than once in this connection. The Government cannot afford to deplete their forest resources, not only now but for the next fifteen or twenty years--which will be the source of great wealth for us, not only in the sale of timber as such or of soft wood as such, but in the various industrial undertakings, *viz.*, plywood, plastics, etc., with which this Government is charged.

Quite apart from that, this Government have got two ideas in view *viz.*, the allotment of swamps and reed areas on the one hand and the setting apart of the grassy areas on the other, for food production. The results are that out of the 10,404 acres that have been surveyed including swamps, grass areas in plains and on the hills, 5,752 acres have been occupied. All the 2,184 acres of regular taungya regeneration areas surveyed have been occupied. Therefore, the total area surveyed is 12,588 acres of which 7,936 acres are in occupation. The remaining unoccupied area is 4,000 acres. Owing to a variety of causes—early rains, want of seeds, failure of lessees, etc.- the full occupied area was not cultivated. It is estimated that about 4,000 acres were actually cultivated. The average yield of paddy from swamps may be assessed at 35 paras per acre, that from reed areas at 60 paras per acre, that from grass areas on the hills at 25 paras and the yield of tapioca from grass areas in the plains at about a ton per acre. Thus it will be seen that 3,100 acres of grassy areas and 821 acres of swamps remain unallotted on the hills. It is proposed to extend the lease period of such lands from 3 years to 7 years with the specific proviso that land liable to erosion should be contour-bunded by the lessee,

Tapioca, wheat, potatoes, temperate vegetables, soya beans and rice can be successfully grown in such areas. The total extent of grass land between 2,000 and 4,000 feet available in the cardamom hills is estimated at no less than one lakh of acres. The colonisation of these grassy areas by co-operative effort was formulated by Government in 1942. Such colonisation schemes will have to be started on an extensive scale as soon as the war ends and the demobilised soldiers return to their native lands Finally, it should be said that the leases of swampy and grassy areas which will be presently given to a large extent will be only on a temporary basis, but, over and above these schemes, the Government of Travancore have been and are forced to consider long-term schemes. Lest we should not suffer from shortage, every bit of land that can be reclaimed from the sea or backwater, every bit of land that can be reclaimed without jeopardy to the ultimate interests of the State, as in the case of forests, will have to be reclaimed. To say all this is simple, but the magnitude and the complexity of the problem have to be grasped. The Government are thinking of the Kayamkulam and the Vembanad areas. Reclamation of such areas means the provision of navigable canals or channels and the construction of bridges which are not likely to be submerged or destroyed by floods in these canals or channels. It will also entail the building of ridges, to prevent the possibility—to a larger or a smaller extent—of inundation of the low-lying tracts in the hinterland. It will also mean the disposal of silt in a manner which may ultimately prove prejudicial. It may also affect the harbours of Cochin and Alleppey by reason of the great changes which are sometimes produced by these vast engineering schemes. The Government, therefore, cannot embark on such schemes without getting the best possible advice. The only country in the world which has taken steps in this direction is Holland which has been familiar with this problem for the last three hundred years. But even in Holland, it will be remembered that the first reclamation led to a complete submersion of valuable property by the breaking of the Zuider Zee. Therefore, the question has to be tackled with the best possible expert advice and a very careful experimentation. But this House may be sure that that experiment will be taken up. The money involved in the scheme runs to crores and not lakhs, and steps will have to be taken to make it possible for the State to make a ten or a twenty year programme with the necessary provision for sinking fund and so forth in respect of public loans to be floated for the purpose. I have no doubt that the response will be immediate and swift, but we must first set our house in order before we start on such schemes.

Therefore, the problems before us are firstly of an immediate character and secondly of a long-term character, but to disassociate or divorce the long-term plans from the short-term problems is not the policy of this Government, because it is much better to proceed in the direction of the long-range problem step by step along with the solution of short-term policies. In other words, we must get all the rice

President]

that is available from the hoarders of the rice within the State. Secondly, we must prevent any dissipation of our tapioca and our vegetable resources either from unpatriotic or other motives. Thirdly, we must extend the areas of cultivation forthwith and intensify the method of cultivation. We must exercise the force of organised and regimented public opinion so that it might impinge itself upon the public opinion of the rest of India and upon the Government of India, in order that they might realise that our needs are great and urgent. Our needs are really as great as those of Bengal. It is possible for Bengal to say to-day that the *amman* crop in Bengal is according to one account 160 per cent. of the normal crop and according to another account—equally authentic—125 per cent. According to the third account it is 90 per cent. or 125 per cent. of last year's crop. Such are the vagaries of statistics even in go-ahead Bengal. But assuming it is neither 90 nor 160 per cent, it is not less than 50 per cent. We produce about 40 per cent of our foodgrains, and with these variegated statistics published by the Government of Bengal—varying nearly from 90 to 160 per cent—it was possible for His Excellency the Governor of Bengal the day before yesterday to say that whatever else has been happening, the spectre of famine has been exercised from Bengal. God grant that it may be so. But we cannot say so as yet. The Government of India are alive to the importance of the problem of food supplies in Travancore and Cochin, and unless they realise from day to day and from hour to hour that we grow only 40 to 50 per cent of our foodgrains and that we must starve unless the rice is given in some palatable form, the issue is a concomitant disaster. I feel sure that the Government of India will realise that and will help us in the future as they helped us in the past.

Incidentally, I may say that the Government of India have now agreed directly to supply the tea and rubber estates with whatever grain is needed by them. We have been asked to give the tea and rubber estates a certain amount of rice, wheat and millets. The tea and rubber estates, like all the rest of us, are anxious to get more rice and less in the way of other grains. I would, with all possible respect, point out to the holders of tea and rubber estates that their coolies come mainly from the plains of the Madras Presidency, that the people of the Madras Presidency are more accustomed to eat ragi and *cumbu* and jowar and millets than the people of Travancore and that to expect, as the University students of Travancore expect, that they should be given more rice than the rest of the people in Travancore is not reasonable. But I am absolutely certain that the representative of the tea and rubber estates will not take such a short-sighted view and that he will realise that there are two great dangers in regard to these estates. Firstly, the estates get rations much greater in quantity than the rest in Travancore. It is not good either for the estate or for the State as a whole. Secondly, if the estates get the grains in different proportions from the rest of the people in the State, it is not going to be

of any benefit to either. So then let us share the burden alike. Travail and tribulation are perhaps our lot, but let us have the consolation of saying that the rich and the poor, north and the south, estate-holder and the labourer in the plains, all share the same ration to the same extent and in the same spirit to the glory of the country.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

DEMAND IV—FORESTS.

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AYYAR: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs 4,200 for meeting the following items:

		Rs.
1.	Providing electric connection to Pallam Plant ...	2,000
2.	Shifting the ascu treatment plant to Shencotta ...	700
3.	The construction of a shed for housing the treatment plant, engine, etc., at Shencotta ...	1,500

The machinery at Pallom has so long been working on petrol. Now petrol is more difficult to obtain and electric current is available close by. It is proposed to shift from the petrol driven engine to electric current motor and hence a provision of Rs. 2,000 is required for the purpose. The advantage is that one department of Government would be paying another Department for the current used and no money will be spent on petrol. In the case of a shed for housing the treatment plant, engine, etc.; at Shencotta, there has been only a temporary shed so far. That shed is on the point of collapse. Now we have decided to continue the treatment of poles according to the ascu method. We want to house the machinery in a permanent building. That is the reason for the Demand of Rs. 1,500. The existing plant at Shencotta is beyond the capacity of the present calls for purposes of work and therefore a plant that is lying idle at Trivandrum is proposed to be shifted to Shencotta and it has to be housed within a shed.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know from the member whether there was any reason why the plant was originally installed at Pallom.

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AYYAR: Because there was facility of communication by water from various plantations from which poles had to be taken over to a central place for treating purposes. In that way Pallom was found to be a very convenient place.

PRESIDENT: When was the plant installed at Pallom?

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AYYAR: Somewhere about 1114.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, I oppose the passing of the Demand.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനയെ ഒരു തത്വത്തിനുവേണ്ടി എതിർക്കയാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. യുദ്ധം തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടു ഏകദേശം നാലഞ്ചു കൊല്ലം ആയി. പെട്രോൾ കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും കിട്ടാൻ വിഷമമാണെന്നും നമുക്കെല്ലാം നേരത്തെ അറിയാം. ദിവാൻജി അവർകൾ പല അവസരത്തിലും ഇതിനെ പരാമർശിച്ചു പ്രസംഗിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഇതു ഇലക്ട്രിസിററികൊണ്ടു് നടത്തണം എന്നും അതിനുള്ള സൌകര്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കണമെന്നും നേരത്തേ ആലോചിക്കാമായിരുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെ ആവശ്യം വരാവുന്ന ഒരു സംഖ്യകൂടി ചേർക്കണമെന്നുണ്ടായിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ ൧൧൧൯-ാമാണ്ടത്തെ ബഡ്ജററു തയാറാക്കിയപ്പോൾ എന്തുകൊണ്ടു ഈ തുകകൂടി ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയില്ല എന്നാണു ഞാൻ ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്. അന്നു ഇതിലേക്കാവശ്യമുള്ള തുക ബഡ്ജററിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയിരുന്നെങ്കിൽ, എത്രയോ പ്രധാന വിഷയങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു ചിന്തിക്കാനുള്ള ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ ഇതിനുവേണ്ടി സമയം വ്യയം ചെയ്യേണ്ടിവരുമായിരുന്നില്ല. ഈ സമ്മേളനം ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി മാത്രം കൂടിയതാണെന്നു തോന്നും. ആവശ്യമെന്നു തോന്നുമ്പോൾ, സർട്ടിഫൈ ചെയ്തും പണം വിനിയോഗിക്കാവുന്നതുപോലെ, അത്യാവശ്യമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഈ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനകൾ അനുവദിച്ചു് അടുത്ത സഭയിൽ അനുവദിപ്പിക്കാമായിരുന്നു. കൂടുതൽ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനകൾ, ൩൦൦ രൂപാമുതൽ ൪ ലക്ഷം വരെ കാണുന്നു. എന്തായാലും. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുടെ ആലോചനക്കുറവോ അനാസ്ഥയോ കൊണ്ടു്, ഈ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനകൾ കൂടി ആദ്യബഡ്ജററിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തിയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ, അതിനുവേണ്ടി സാമാജികരുടെ സഞ്ചാരപ്പടിയിനത്തിൽ ഒരു വലിയ തുക കൂടി ചിലവാക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു. അതിനാൽ ഒരു തത്വത്തിനുവേണ്ടി, ഇന്നത്തെ എല്ലാ ധനാഭ്യർത്ഥനകളെയും വിശേഷിച്ചും ഇതിനേയും ഞാൻ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: Sir, I wish to say a word. Ordinarily I should not have attempted to speak on this Demand but for one of the reasons put forward by Mr. Kurup. I am definitely emphatically against certification. The Government will be placing themselves under unnecessary difficulties if certification is resorted to. Therefore, Sir, I am extremely happy that this motion for a supplementary Demand has been made on the floor of the House.

I agree with my friend in this that while it was legitimate at the time of the Budget for departmental heads to make proposals with regard to requirements for the next 12 months, it should have been certainly better, more in justice to us, if these grants were included in the general budget. The ascu treatment has been to some of us a mystery. I do not know what is being done with the ascu treated

timber. Very often so many disappointments happen. Government are aware of that. I hope, Sir, that ascu treatment will serve a good purpose in procuring good timber. How much is treated for use in Travancore, how much is exported, all these are incidental questions and the shortness of time debar me from making any observation on that. I am glad that the Conservator of Forests had everything to say that hereafter in Pallam there is no need for the treatment plant. Hence it may be shifted to Shencotta. There is the ascu plant and the shed already available and it could do good work there.

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: There seems to be a mistake about the Pallam Plant being shifted to Shencottah. The Plant at Pallom will continue at Pallom. It is only with regard to the supply of electricity that a change is made.

The reason why it was not moved originally was because it was not expected at that time that the electric motor would be available for the purpose. As a matter of fact, it was thought that no motor would be available for some time to come.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: May I correct him, Sir? It is written "i. providing electric connection to Pallom Plant Rs. 2,000 ii. shifting the Ascu Treatment Plant to Shencottah"

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: It is not from Pallom but from Trivandrum.

Now the Electrical Engineer has informed the Forest Departmnnt that all the necessary materials for giving connection are available and that is why a supplementary motion is being brought now.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 4,200 under Demand IV Forests, was put and carried.

The grant was made.

RAO BAHADUR T. V. VENKATESWARA AIYAR: I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 5,600 as an additional allotment required under salaries to the instructors, stipends for trainees, contingencies etc., for the School at Konni for training Forest Guards.

When the original motion was moved during the last budget session, a grant of about Rs. 6,000 was provided for the purpose. That has been found to be insufficient for the main reason that Foresters receive a much higher stipend than Forest Guards. Therefore, it is found that an additional amount of Rs. 5,600 is necessary for continuing the second term of this training centre for the second six months of the year 1119.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know whether it was thought of after the budget session?

PRESIDENT: Generally speaking, we find that in regard to these allowances, travelling allowances and other allowances given to the officers at the budget session have had to be altered as a result of the present situation. All allowances are being revised.

[President.]

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs, 5,600 under Demand IV—Forests—was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XI—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,000 under Demand XI — General Administration—19—G—Public Service Recruitment.

A sum of Rs. 600 was provided under Anchal Charges in the budget of the Public Service Commission Department for 1119. But an expenditure of nearly Rs. 1,000 had to be incurred up to date due to the fact that a special examination was held this year for the recruitment of clerks and clerk-typists. The Public Service Commissioner has asked for the enhancement of the provision under the head for the expenditure mentioned above and also for the conduct of the T. C. S. examination which will be held in the course of the year.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 1,000 under Demand XI— General Administration—19—G—Public Service Recruitment, was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XIV—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 600 under Budget Head XIV—Administration of Justice.

The District Munsiff's Court at Krishnapuram was abolished in 1115 as there was not sufficient work for a Munsiff's Court at that station and the pakuthies within its jurisdiction were transferred to the jurisdiction of the District Munsiffs' Courts at Mavelikara, Haripad and Karunagapally. Since then certain representations have been received from the inhabitants of Kayamkulam for the re-establishment of the Court which was abolished in 1115. The High Court has reported that on 1-1-1119 the pendency of cases in the two Munsiffs' Courts now working at Mavelikara was about 1089 and that one of the courts at Mavelikara may temporarily be shifted to Kayamkulam to be known as the Krishnapuram Temporary Munsiff's Court. This Court will have a file of nearly 561 suits. The proposal has been placed before the Finance Committee and the Committee was of the view that the matter might be placed before the House for decision.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: May I know from the honourable Member what was the number of cases in the Krishnapuram Munsiff's Court when it was abolished?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I find from the Report of the High Court received at the time it was abolished, that it was nearly 500 cases. It was not considered to be sufficient work for the Court because of the existence of two or three courts in the vicinity.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know the number of cases that may come up before the Court now?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: More or less 560.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: May I know the place where it is going to be established; Kayamkulam or Krishnapuram?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The court is to be called the temporary court at Krishnapuram but is to be located at Kayamkulam.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I remember an expression, Sir, when Voltaire spoke of the 'Holy Roman Empire'. He said it was neither Holy, nor Roman, nor Empire. Now there is a court which is to be called the Krishnapuram Court but which is to be located at Kayamkulam.

But I know, so far as this question is concerned, that we have to go a little deeper into it. There was a Munsiff's Court in existence at Krishnapuram. I have seen that myself.

A committee was appointed to consider the question of Law's delays in which my friend Mr. Parameswaran Pillai was also concerned. We had also, Sir, a Commissioner of Law's Delays, a gentleman of very great experience, one who would not swerve from his duty, Mr. G. Sankara Pillai, and to assist him was a very energetic, intelligent gentleman who is representing Government on the other side, the Chief Secretary...............

PRESIDENT: The matter is not a really fundamental one, nor does Government wish to have any more than a formal opinion of the House whether they want the court there or not.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: What is the meaning of shifting courts in this irresponsible fashion? Simply because the number of cases is 500, the Commissioner recommends to the Government to abolish the court. Now that there has been a considerable increase of cases of 61, they are going to re-establish it. I have absolutely no objection to having a Court either at Kayamkulam or at Krishnapuram. What I am objecting to is the meaningless fashion of shifting courts. Give them a court by all means. But I am opposing this principle, because people should not shilly-shally these matters.

PRESIDENT; Honourable members should realise that Government have no particular views on the matter. This is largely a matter for the locality concerned, whether they want a court there or not. The High Court, a very responsible body, has made the recommendation. The House may either accept the recommendation or not. It is not a matter of fundamental importance.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 600 under Demand XIV Administration of Justice was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—MEDICAL.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: I move for a grant of Rs. 13,100 under Demand XXIV—Medical, for payment of the cost of the Ambulance Cars, supplied to the Medical Department by the State Transport Department, as there is no fund available in the sanctioned budget for diversion.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഈ ആംബ്യുലൻസ് കാറുകൾ ഉപയോഗത്തിൽ വന്നോ അതോ വരാൻ പോകുന്നതേയുള്ളോ?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: ഉപയോഗത്തിൽ വന്നുകഴിഞ്ഞു.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: When were the cars supplied to the Medical Department?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Some time ago. It was before the Budget was submitted to Government by the Department.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Does the honourable Member refer to the budget for 1118 or 1119?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: I am referring to the Budget for 1119. The Ambulance buses were originally purchased by the Transport Department. At the request of the Government they converted them into Ambulance cars for the use of the Medical Department, and the Medical Department have been asked to take possession of those cars. Incidentally I may say that these cars were used in connection with the A. R. P. When that was stopped, at the request of the Medical Department, Government were pleased to place these cars at their disposal. Now they want to pay the cost of these buses to the Transport Department.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Has the Transport Department to bear any portion of the cost of these cars?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKAR: No; they did not make use of these buses for their own use.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 1,230 under demand XXIV—Medical, for the appointment of a Lay Secretary for the General Hospital, Ophthalmic Hospital and the Medical Stores, Trivandrum. This is a new appointment and Government want to try it only as an experiment. At present the Surgeons in charge of the General Hospital, Ophthalmic Hospital and the Medical Stores, in addition to their professional duties have to attend to the checking of accounts, maintenance of registers, supervision over the Stores and such other things. With a view to relieve these Surgeons from these additional responsibilities so that they may devote more of their time to professional duties, Government thought that it would be advisable to give an assistant to them in the shape of a Lay Secretary who will look after such items of duties. This experiment was tried in Madras and Mysore and the Medical Committee which was started here some time ago recommended to Government that it would be in the interests of the Medical Service to have such an appointment made in the Medical Department. All of us know that it will not be possible for a medical officer to attend to the checking of registers such as diet register, stores register, etc. in the manner it ought to be done. All

these registers and accounts will be scrutinised by the Lay Secretary more thoroughly and as a result of which some savings also may be made to Government. It will also result in more time being made available to the Medical Officers to attend to their normal professional duties. Now this is thought of only as an experiment. If the experiment is proved to be successful, Government will place this matter again before this House for making necessary provision for the next year.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഇതിനുമുൻപു് ഈ ജോലികൾ ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരുന്നതു് ആരാണു്?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Honourable members know that the dieting expenditure in the General Hospital has assumed large proportions on account of the large number of patients.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I have an idea of the qualifications of the Lay Secretary?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: The man selected should be one who has got general administrative experience with some knowledge of Accounts.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: മെഡിക്കൽ സ്റ്റോറിന്റെ ചാർജ്ജുകൂടി ഒരു മെഡിക്കൽമാൻ വഹിക്കുന്നതല്ലേ നല്ലതു്.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: The man chosen cannot be a medical man. He must know accounting and should have office experience.

PRESIDENT: The position of the doctor in the Medical Department in this respect is more or less that of the Munsiff. At the end of the day he has to attest his initials to the accounts presented to him by the clerk concerned. The man has been sitting all day long in the Bench and he has to put his initials to certain accounts, probably without knowing what he is doing. Such instances have not been rare. One or two came to my notice in another place and in another capacity of important documents having been initialled under the impression that they were some kind of office proceedings.

But that apart, so far as the medical man is concerned, he has absolutely no experience in accounting and the medical stores in the General Hospital are so large and things connected with them so complicated, that unless there is a man who knows the business side of it and who knows accounting, it will be very difficult to manage it. For an ordinary doctor, it will be very difficult to attend to these functions also in the midst of an operation or things of that sort. The experiment has been made in Madras and they say that it has worked very satisfactorily. We will also try the experiment. If it is successful there is nothing to prevent us from coming to the House for sanctioning the necessary expenditure on a permanent basis.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 20,000 under demand XXVI—Public Health and Sanitation. This amount is required to meet some additional and unexpected expenditure in connection with the prevention of cholera

[Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker.]

and malaria in some parts of the State. Grants have to be made to the Municipalities of Kottayam and Nagercoil for malaria control work. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the grant.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 4 lakhs under Demand XXIX—Stationery and Printing for meeting the cost of stationery. In support of this demand I wish to point out to the honourable members that since the budget of this year was passed many things have happened. The position with regard to paper became very acute and it was even thought that we would not be able to get any paper at all from outside. So, Government in consultation with the Government of India had to take strong and energetic measures for securing our supplies of special paper. We have been getting down such paper from outside to meet our special requirements for the Registration Department, stamp papers, etc. There was a fear that no such paper will be available in future even for such special requirements. So this Government had to order out extra supplies of such paper from sources pointed out by the Government of India.

With a view to give relief to the school-going population Government had also to order extra paper to make 10 lakhs of standard notebooks. That meant an extra expenditure of about Rs. 3 lakhs. By this arrangement our boys and girls were enabled to get notebooks at cheap rates. All this meant an approximate expenditure of about Rs. 4 lakhs in excess of our budget estimates of Rs. 2,50,000. The people have been saved at least seven lakhs by these timely measures. For these supplies of paper we have to enter into agreements with firms outside the State. Sometimes they insist on payment being made in advance before the supply is made. So, we must be ready for such payments although in actual practice all the sum asked for now may not be spent by the end of the year. But we must be prepared to make the payment whenever the necessity arises. Thus if we are to get a telegram from a Company stating that their bill has to be honoured by a payment through a bank, we must be ready for it. So I move for this additional grant of Rs. 4 lakhs, to meet such possibilities during the rest of the year.

The motion was put to vote and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—35 C.
STORES PURCHASE COMMITTEE.

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,635 under Demand XXX—Miscellaneous Departments—Stores Purchase Committee. During the last three years the activities of the Stores Purchase Committee have been assisted by the Repair Section of Government which enables a certain amount of savings to Government. In these days of war, when articles can be purchased only at abnormally high rates, Government find it more economical to repair and recondition damaged apparatus and instruments and thus manage our needs.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the department is getting old materials from outside and repairing them?

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN : No, Sir. This is only a service department devoted to the repair of Government equipment. To illustrate, if a theodolite goes out of order and if the P. W. D. is not able to repair it, they send it to the Repair Section and it is returned after repair. Similarly with regard to the Forest and other departments. It is purely a service department.

Honourable members might remember that there was sanction for this office only for the first six months of this year. Having proved itself very useful, Government thought that it might be extended by another six months and hence this demand for the next six months of the year.

The motion was put to vote and carried and the grant was made.

PRESIDENT : The House will now adjourn and meet at 3-30 P. M.

The House adjourned for lunch at 2-25 P. M. and re-assembled at 3-30 P. M. with the President in the Chair.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. There is one matter I had intended to point out. As would have been evident from the remarks that I have made, Government are extremely anxious that on the main points relating to the food position in the State, the opinion of the members of this House may be made available to this Government and, through this Government, to the authorities in Delhi. I am therefore perfectly prepared in tomorrow's adjournment motion—although it is specifically devoted only to the question of consideration of the Tapioca Control—to deal with it as if it were a food debate. I am giving this notice previously in order that honourable members might come prepared with such points as they wish to emphasise, which may be of help to the State and to this Government in the formulation and co-ordination of policies. From that point of view, honourable members will consider and come to a decision on points which are sufficiently important and not purely of a domestic character. For instance, the shortcomings of particular *kara* committees may be important, but it is not a general matter. The main question relates to shortage of foodstuffs, the difficulties that are in our way and on all these general matters I am welcoming a discussion tomorrow and trust that honourable members will consent to my giving that extension to the debate so that the authorities at Delhi may be aware of the opinion of the leading members of this House. I take it that I have the consent of the House in this.

(Honourable members signified their assent.)

PRESIDENT : Yes; then the debate will proceed on these lines tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE : WAR ALLOWANCE TO TEACHERS IN GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Sir, may I read my adjournment motion :—

> "I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation that has arisen out of the delay in the payment of the War Allowance to the aided teachers in Primary Schools and Primary sections attached to other schools in the State as ordered in G. O. R. O. C. No. 2807/43/Edn. dated 23rd November 1943 owing to the opposition of certain managements to the scheme of direct payment and to the contribution of a part of the allowance as contemplated in the above G. O."

[Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai]

Sir, I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate the Government on their having been pleased to appoint a committee fully representing all the educational interests in the State to investigate into the working of the present system and submit proposals for its reorganisation with due regard to post-war reconstruction.

Then, coming to the adjournment motion, Sir, it is seen from the Press Communiqué on the subject issued by the Government, that there are 2,138 Primary Schools and Primary sections attached to other schools under private management with 9,555 aided teachers in them and that Government have been pleased to sanction Rs. 2,29,320 for the payment of War Allowance to these teachers at the rate of Rs. 2 per mensem per teacher, provided the respective managements agree to remit and have actually remitted into the treasury their share of Rs. 2 per teacher. Therefore, it is obvious that if the Government's scheme is accepted by all the managements and acted upon, the poor aided school teachers would get an additional remuneration of Rs. 4 per mensem over and above the usual monthly grant of Rs. 8. In the G. O. under reference, Government have made it perfectly clear, that in future the war allowance and the grant-in-aid would be paid to the aided school teachers directly by Government by means of cheques issued to them by the Assistant Inspecting Officers. I am given to understand that the war allowance sanctioned by the Government has not yet been paid to the aided school teachers owing to the opposition of certain managements both in regard to the system of direct payment and in regard to the contribution of a part of the allowance by the management as contemplated in the G. O. This is indeed an unsatisfactory state of affairs affecting the primary school aided teachers for no fault of theirs. I am given to understand that the managers of 1,191 schools, both corporate and individual, having 5,232 aided school teachers under them, have either remitted into the treasury their share of the contribution or have agreed to do so when Government put into operation the proposed scheme. I am also given to understand that the managers of the remaining schools, *viz.* 947, having under them 4,323 aided teachers, while expressing their readiness to work out the scheme, have suggested that the Government's share of the proposed war allowance should be paid to them direct so that they may pay the amount to their teachers along with their regular salary. A few other managers have expressed their inability to make any contribution towards the war allowance. It is not at all fair or proper on our part to shut our eyes against the real facts.

Now, let us consider what the facts are. The Statham Committee Report says thus at page 95, para 2, "We must repeat that it has been established beyond fear of contradiction that very large numbers of teachers in the aided primary schools in Travancore are not receiving even the salary for which they sign in the acquittance roll. It is impossible, however, to get accurate statistics showing the numbers of schools which commit malpractices in the payment of teachers. Our

investigations have, however, led us to believe that the schools which give remuneration in addition to the Government grant are in the minority. Schools in which the management is withholding a portion of the Government grant form a large number. We have sufficient evidence to establish beyond doubt the fact that a very considerable number of teachers are receiving only Rs. 6 or 7 by way of salary and we have even had instances of the management paying only Rs. 4 out of the Government grant of Rs. 8½. While it is highly deplorable that Government funds should be to this extent misused, it is even more deplorable that teachers should be expected to do efficient work and take a real and effective interest in the children committed to their care while receiving wages considerably lower than the wages of an ordinary manual worker." This appears to be the case not only in Travancore but in British India also. From the report of the Central Advisory Board of Education, 7th meeting, page 24, paragraph 4, it is seen that the U.P. Government have reported thus—"In the majority of cases they (aided teachers) get merely the amount of aid given by the District Boards. Sometimes, they are forced to share this small sum *sub rosa* with the manager". Whenever any request was made by the members of the Legislature to enhance the grant-in-aid, the uniform reply given by Government was that the managers, or at least a fairly good number of them, were not doing the right thing to the teachers, and that the teachers do not actually get even the whole of the grant given to them by Govenment. Of course, there are several respectable managements in the State, who, I am sure, will not stoop to this sort of disgraceful acts of dishonesty, but there is no denying the fact that there are also several managements who are guilty of this charge. It is, therefore, the duty of every respectable management to take advantage of this favourable opportunity afforded by Government, not only to prove its austerity but also to effectively co-operate with Government by accepting the scheme in toto and thus eradicate corruption from wherever it might be in existence.

Sir, all other public employees even down to the peons and menials are in receipt of war allowance and the poor private school teacher is the only public servant who is not receiving any additional remuneration to meet the enhanced expenditure on account of the war. It is at this juncture that Government have been pleased to come forward with their very generous offer of a war allowance to these teachers even though they are not Government servants. The public heartily welcome this offer and it was naturally expected, that of all persons, the managers would be the first to extend a hearty welcome to this offer and to co-operate with Government in relieving the distress of the teachers. But it was a painful surprise for me to hear that a few managers have not only not accepted the proposals, but assumed a definite opposition to the whole scheme. As one who has been long and intimately related to one of the respectable corporate managements in the State—I mean the Nair Service Society—and as one who has been directly managing more educational institutions than one for the last several

[Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai.]

years, I have very great pleasure in recording my firm conviction that this arrangement is in the best interest of the education in the country and to inform this honourable House, that as soon as the proposal was known I started payment of the war allowance to the teachers of the schools under my management as contemplated in the G. O. and officially brought the matter to the notice of the authorities concerned.

This House will be glad to learn that the Nair Service Society, which I can assure you, is by no means less jealous of safeguarding its autonomy than any other management in the State, has readily accepted the scheme. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Government on the very timely generosity they have evinced to ameliorate the condition of the private-school teachers in the State and to assure them that they will have not only the support of the Legislature and the general public, but also that of all the managements who are really interested in the educational advancement of the State and not promoted by any ulterior and questionable motive. It is, therefore, my considered opinion, Sir, that the scheme now adumbrated in the G. O. may be implemented without the least delay both in regard to direct payment of the allowance and grant-in-aid to the teachers, and also in regard to the contribution by the managements.

With these observations, I commend the adjournment motion to the unanimous acceptance of the honourable House.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: Has the honourable member any suggestion as to how the management could be compelled to make the contribution?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: There are ever so many means. For instance, if the proposals of Government are not accepted, they can even withdraw the recognition of the school. They can stop the payment of the grant-in-aid.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI (*Meenachil cum Thodupuzha*): In supporting the motion before the House, I would like to offer a few remarks. I am glad that the question of direct payment of the grant-in-aid school teachers has been brought before the House. There were debates on this question formerly in this House, and on all these occasions I have been pressing the necessity of paying directly from the department to the grant-in-aid school teachers without the medium of the managers. The managers of the schools, with the exception of a few, have been trying to steal a small portion of the eight rupees paid to the grant-in-aid teachers. Now during war time after a full discussion of the matter in this House, Government, have thought it fit to give two rupees from the Government funds, asking the management to pay another two rupees. When this question was brought before this House last time, then also the question of direct payment came up. I wonder why certain managements, as pointed out by the mover of the resolution, do not want Government interference in the matter of payments. They want money to be paid directly into their hands. The objections rais by them, according to me, are unsustainable. Why should they

interfere between the Government and the grant-in-aid teacher? The objection raised by them is, therefore, prima facie suspicious. In the case of such managements as are prepared to make a contribution of two rupees and in the case of others who take objection to it, direct payment must be made by Government to the grant-in-aid teachers. With these observations I support the motion.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): I share the view expressed by the honourable member that the lot of the grant-in-aid school teachers should be improved. In fact no member of this House will look with complacency the present miserable lot of the poor grant-in-aid teacher. To say that is one thing: but to say that recognition of the private schools should be withheld on the ground of non-compliance of the direction of Government is another thing.

PRESIDENT: That question is not before the House now; only it has been made as an observation by the honourable member.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: Only because it was mentioned, I rose to speak a few words. It is admitted on all hands that private educational institutions are playing a conspicuous part in the education of the State. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai, who represents Thiruvella taluk, has the honour of representing a taluk which is first in point of literacy in the State. Who is responsible for that? The latest census report says that it is due to the private educational institutions being active in the field for a long time. The other two taluks which are foremost in point of literacy are Kottayam and Changanacherry. All these taluks owe their pre-eminence to the private—managed schools. Travancore is first in point of literacy also due to these educational institutions. The head of the present administration has on more than one occasion paid deserved tribute to the sense of service and the sense of self-sacrifice on the part of the private managements. I am saying all this to urge that a minor matter like the one under discussion should not be unnecessarily magnified to lead to undesirable results.

I am not very conversant with educational institutions in the State. I am not aware that there are any private managements which are definitely opposed to the scheme adumbrated by the Government to give war allowance to the teachers but their opposition relates to the method of payment suggested by the Government in asking them to deposit two rupees in the Treasury as a condition precedent to the grant of war allowance by Government. This method to entitle them to draw their share is looked upon by certain managements as something derogatory to their position and status. I think, considering the investment, capital and other commitments made by the private educational institutions they could be trusted for this paltry sum.

PRESIDENT: The Honourable member will perhaps indicate to Government whether they should differentiate between one such management and another? Is it the opinion of the member that the rich managements should be allowed not to follow the rules while the poor managements are doing so? The total number of primary schools

[President.]

under the management of those who have taken objection to the proposal is less than one fourth of the total institutions in the State. The question is therefore whether those alone ought to be exempted and the rule enforceed as to the remaining three fourth of the number of schools. I may say at once that the Catholic Archbishop, the Salvation Army and Rev. Eastaff are the only objectors. Government will be guided by the sentiments of the House in this matter.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH : I do not suggest any differential treatment to any section but I only say that individual malpractices should be found out and dealt with by Government.

PRESIDENT : We find that there is unanimous opinion throughout India that the salary of the Primary school teacher is taken by the management. The point is not, however, that the Government consider that high diginitaries like the Archbishop and Bishops are likely to do that. But can Gouernment enforce one rule with regard to one organisation running primary schools and relax it in the case of another ?

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH: I do not advocate that high ecclesiastical dignitaries like the Archbishops and Bishops should be accorded a different treatment as against a poor private school manager. I am prepared to concede that there are black sheep among the private school managers. But there is no reason to call the whole flock, black. If there are black sheep, find them out and deal with them stringently to root out the evil. What I ask is not to measure all by the same standard. I am conversant with a primary school in my native village. That is one of the biggest in the State in point of strength. That school has been paying war allowance ever since the advent of the war. The minimum pay of the private school teacher in that school is 14 rupees. To ask them to deposit two rupees in the Treasury to entitle them to get the other half from Government is rather hard. I submit that proper cases of delinquency should be investigated and proper treatment should be meted out. All the institutions cannot be measured in the same scale. I submit that if representatives of the managements had been convened for a conference, a formula acceptable to all could have been found. I still think that a conference between the Government and representatives of the private educational institutions should be called together to get over these difficulties.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnathur*): ഈ സഭയുടെ ആലോചനയ്ക്കു വിഷയീഭവിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ അടിയന്തിര പ്രമേയത്തെപ്പറ്റി രണ്ടുവാക്കു പറയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ആശിക്കുന്നു. പ്രൈമറിവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെന്നല്ല എല്ലാ രാജ്യത്തും ഒഴിച്ചുകൂടാൻ പാടില്ലാത്ത ഒരു കാര്യമാണ്. പ്രൈമറിവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ഗവൺമെന്റു അല്ലാതെയുള്ള പല സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളും നമ്മുടെ

രാജ്യത്തു് ഏറ്റെടുത്തു നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിലുള്ള പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസസ്ഥാപനത്തിൽ ഭൂരിഭാഗവും പ്രൈവററു് ഏജൻസികളാണു് നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതിനു് ഒന്നുരണ്ടു പ്രധാന കാരണങ്ങളുണ്ടു്. മതപരമായും മററും നാട്ടിൽ പ്രവൎത്തനത്തിനു വരുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കു് ജനങ്ങളുടെയിടയിൽ ഒരു സ്ഥാനം പിടിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഉപകരിക്കുന്നു. രണ്ടാമതായിട്ടു്, മാനേജുമെൻറു് എന്നുള്ള ലാഭകരമായ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിനുവേണ്ടി മാത്രം സ്കൂളുകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്ന കുറെ ആളുകൾ ഉണ്ടു്. യഥാൎത്ഥത്തിൽ ജനോപകാരത്തിനായി സ്കൂൾ നടത്തുന്ന കൂട്ടരും ഇല്ലാതില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ പല ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടി സമാരംഭിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഈ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഗ്രാൻറിനെ പലവിധത്തിൽ കൈകാൎയ്യം ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്. അധികവും സ്വാൎത്ഥപരമായ ഉദ്ദേശങ്ങളാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന ഡീയർനസ്സു് ഗ്രാൻറിന്റെ ൫൦ ശതമാനം മാനേജ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു് വാങ്ങി ബാക്കി കൂടിച്ചേൎത്തു് സാധുക്കളായ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാൎക്കു് വീതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ചെയ്യുന്ന ധനസഹായത്തിനെ ഗ്രാൻറിനോടുകൂടിച്ചേൎത്തു തങ്ങൾതന്നെ കൊടുത്തുകൊള്ളാമെന്നു പറയുന്നവർ നാട്ടിന്റെ നന്മയെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു് ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം സ്ഥാപിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവരല്ല. ഇപ്രകാരം നാട്ടിന്റെ നന്മയെക്കാൾ സ്വാൎത്ഥത മുൻനിറുത്തി സ്കൂൾ നടത്തിപ്പോരുന്നവൎക്കു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ധനസഹായം ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണു് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. എന്നാൽ മാനേജുമെൻറിന്റെ ന്യൂനതകൊണ്ടു് സാധു വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാൎക്കു വാർ അലവൻസു് നൽകാതെ ഇരിക്കുന്നതു വലിയ കഷ്ടമാണു്. അതു ഒരു നിലയിൽ വലിയ നഷ്ടമാണു്. ഭാവിപൗരന്മാരുടെ വിജ്ഞാനവെളിച്ചം കൊളുത്തുന്നവരുടെ ദാരിദ്ര്യദുഃഖം നാട്ടിനു ഹാനികരമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈ കാൎയ്യത്തിൽ സാധു വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാരെ ആത്മാൎത്ഥമായി സഹായിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN (*Vaikom cum Kottayam*) : മി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ അടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയത്തോടു ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. അതിൽ അന്തർലീനമായിരിക്കുന്ന തത്വത്തിനോടു എല്ലാവരും അനുകൂലിക്കുമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നതു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് പരുങ്ങലിലാണു് ഗ്രാൻറു്സ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഇന്നത്തെ വിഷമഘട്ടത്തിൽ അവൎക്കു രണ്ടുരൂപാ കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു സാദ്ധ്യമ

[Mr. K. R. Narayanan.]

ല്ലെന്നുള്ള മാനേജുമെൻറിന്റെ വാദമുഖത്തിനെ യാതൊരു തരത്തിലും സാധൂകരിക്കാവുന്നതല്ല. അതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം എന്താണെന്നു എനിക്കൊന്നു മനസ്സിലാവുന്നില്ല. അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ കയ്യിൽകൊടുത്തു് അവരെ തൃപ്തിപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊള്ളാമെന്നു പറയുന്ന മാനേജുമെൻറിന് ആ തുക സക്കാർ ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടയ്ക്കാൻ എന്താണു് വിരോധം? ധനസഹായം വാഗ്ദാനം ചെയ്യുന്ന മാനേജുമെൻറു രൂപാ ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടച്ചാൽ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ രണ്ടുരൂപാ കൂടി കൊടുക്കുവാൻസാദ്ധ്യമല്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നു. അവക്കു് രണ്ടു രൂപാ കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കുമ്പോൾ മാനേജുമെൻറിന്റെ തൃപ്തികരമായ നടത്തിപ്പിന് ഭംഗം വരുമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കാൻ തരമില്ല. എനിക്കറിയുവാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിടത്തോളം മാനേജുമെൻറു ഇതൊരു കച്ചവടമായികരുതിപ്പോരുകയാണു്. ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള വരൂപായിൽനിന്നും സ്റ്റേഷനറി, ഫർണിച്ചർ മുതലായവയ്ക്കെന്നും പറഞ്ഞു ഒരു തുക മാററി വയ്ക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു് അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കുള്ള ശമ്പളം ചെക്കായി കൊടുക്കുന്നതുത്തമമായിരിക്കും. തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മ വർദ്ധിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഇന്നത്തെ വിഷമഘട്ടത്തിൽ പത്തുരൂപാ വാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ടു മൂന്നുരൂപാകൂടി വാങ്ങിച്ചതായി എഴുതിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു എത്രയോ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ സന്നദ്ധരായിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ കൃത്യം നടത്തുന്നതു് മാനേജുമെൻറു അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരും കൂടി യോജിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണെങ്കിൽ തന്നെയും ആയതു നീതീകരിക്കാവുന്നതല്ല. മുതലിന്റെ ഉടമസ്ഥനും കള്ളനുംകൂടി യോജിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണു് മോഷണം നടത്തുന്നതെങ്കിൽ തന്നെയും അതു കുററകരമല്ലേ? അതുകൊണ്ടു് മാനേജുമെൻറിന്റെ ഇത്തരത്തിലുള്ള അഴിമതികളെ യാതൊരുതരത്തിലും നീതീകരിക്കാവുന്നതല്ല. ഗ്രാൻറുസ്ക്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ രണ്ടുരൂപാ കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള വാദമുഖത്തിനോടു എല്ലാവരും യോജിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ലിറററസി വർദ്ധിച്ചതോടുകൂടി അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ സംഖ്യയും വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതിനെ പരിപോഷിക്കുന്നതിനായിട്ടെങ്കിലും രണ്ടുരൂപാ കൂട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇതു് ഏതാനും വ്യക്തികളോടല്ല അനേകലക്ഷം സാധുജനങ്ങളോടു ചെയ്യുന്ന അപരാധമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു മാനേജുമെൻറു എന്തെല്ലാം പ്രതികൂലശബ്ദങ്ങൾ പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചാൽതന്നെയും, ഇതു് അടിയന്തിരവും അത്യാവശ്യവുമായതുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, even before I rose to speak, a very legitimate question was put to me by an honourable member on my left as to what right have I to speak on this motion. (Interruption). But anyhow, I endorse the legitimacy of that energetic question. I am afraid I have to speak on a motion of this sort as one who has not personal knowledge or experience on the subject. At the very outset

I may say, Sir, that though I have not got sufficient experience of the grant-in-aid educational institutions, I can speak about the condition of institutions in the two taluks which I represent. Some years back, there were just a little over a dozen grant-in-aid institutions. As a result of the axe applied by the Statham Report, one after another got truncated, so much so, only a handful of institutions which could be counted at the finger's ends remain at present. In that part of Travancore, the difficulty to start such institutions was found to be more or less a psychological defect with the people there who do not themselves take interest in primary education as elsewhere. As a result of any experience in this House, I have heard it said from more than one part of the House, in certain other places in Travancore, grant-in-aid primary schools were brought into existence by way of a simple place of profit-earning business. The management always look to the balance sheet every year and think out for themselves whether they could not improve matters so as to earn out of them. As a matter of fact, some of the honourable members on this side of the House are running primary grant-in-aid educational institutions. One occasion I remember an honourable member told me about the actual number of such institutions run by him and the income earned by him. I looked askance at him. I asked him as to what he meant by that, that he derives an income out of it.

PRESIDENT: The honourable member generally was speaking in a much clearer form and was heard much better at this end.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Yes, Sir. If any experience could be gathered from this House, I wish to refer merely to the Government method of giving grants to institutions conducting primary education, I ask, Sir, how it is possible to derive income out of them without Government noticing it. I am not surprised at the present plight of such institutions. Equally, I am not surprised of the fact that thirs House insists on discussing a motion of this sort on the floor of the House.

In the first instance, I may say that the Government communique on the subject is not happily worded. It is true that my honourable friend, Mr. Dominic Joseph, acknowledged with a certain amount of frankness that there are black sheep among managements. On that very account, it is not fair to condemn the agency as a whole and arrive at a generalised proposition. There is the Penal Code providing for punishment of offences such as stealing, theft and numerous cases of theft or house-breaking by night are taking place in this town of Trivandrum. To prevent these offences it is no justification to ask the citizens of Trivandrum to undergo parole daily in the different Police Stations in the town. On the other hand, the local police should be whipped up to watch better. The Government communiqe on the subject wants such parole to be undergone by grant-in-aid institutions. I conceive it is the paramount duty of Government to afford all facilities in the

[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

matter of free primary education. I look to the day when, as the Head of the Administration unequivocally declared the other day, it will be possible for the Government of Travancore to fulfil its elementary duty of providing free and compulsory primary education throughout the State. When the Government themselves are thus determined to realise this laudable object as *fait accompli* naturally they may be tempted to look with fury at any the least latches on the part of managements of primary institutions. I can understand that. There may be institutions started with a view to compete with other like institutions as were referred to by Mr. Kunjithomman or with a view to propagate their faith or with a view to secure profit. But the Government must proceed by ignoring the different motives behind these institutions and by chastising the faults of which, I know, there are many with a view to correct them. In the Nile Valley there used to be said of the existence of an animal called Ichuemenon which went about destroying crocodile eggs merely for the purpose of destruction. Here the motive is bad enough to condemn it. But what is the effect of the act? Breeding of crocodiles is effectively curtailed; and this in turn minimised danger to human life so people in those parts felt comfort and safety that they constructed abodes on both sides of the river Nile and lived happily. Even so here, I perceive primary education is imparted by private agencies as well, no matter what their motives are. If people are imbued with good motives and start educational institutions with a view to impart instruction, it is well and good. It affords substantial help to the generality of people and sets an inspiring example for others to follow. If done with questionable motives their act must necessarily be brought under disciplinary measures. The managements every year take greater share of the duty that ought to have been performed by the Government. If the people at large are benefited by free primary education of these managements it behoves Government not to look into the motives behind such educational institutions. But their different motives when translated into any overtact, should be condemned forthwith. In incorrigible cases they should be wiped out: But if done for education's sake we must congratulate the management and the agencies which are engaged in the work of spreading free primary education and Government should help them financially for the development of their laudable object. The Government after having known that the lot of the poor grant-in-aid teachers of primary institutions is in a deplorable condition should not remain without paying their share of contribution in the nature of war allowance simply because the managements are not paying their teachers properly and are keeping false accounts. Other servants of Government are given the benefit of that charity from Government. I could understand if the communique on the subject had been left unpublished and if the spirit of it be circularised to these institutions. Instead of

exposing the managements outright as is done at present, some persuasion on the part of Government would have improved matters pertaining to grant-in-aid institutions. What is stated in the Statham Committee Report need not be considered at present. The Government should go ahead and persuade the managements. If the Government had done that, I could have understood the position. There was no need to proclaim in terms of condemnation about the grant-in-aid institutions in the State. To my conviction, there are institutions that are run on sound lines. Under these circumstances, I consider that the spirit of the communique is not happily worded. It could have stated the case on a high moral plane, It could have appealed to the managements to behave in a proper manner especially at a critical period like this. My honest opinion is that whatever money is set apart by Government by way of war allowance to teachers of private institutions could have been immediately given to the teachers apart from the question whether managements also contribute an equal share. Persuasion on the part of Government on the moral aspect of the situation could have created very encouraging results. It would have been well on the part of Government not to have exposed the mass weakness of aided institutions. I am surprised to find why the institutions run by Archbishop and those run by London Mission Society represented by Rev: Eastaff and those by the Salvation Army, have created such a situation. Of all things I cannot understand why the Government should sit with composure without disbursing this two and odd lakhs of rupees. Simply because these three kinds of managements are not amenable Government should be above all these considerations. They must look for the good of the State. Institutions may have spruing from different motives. It is not for Government to probe into those motives; but it is for Government, I realise, to bring them strictly under discipline.

PRESIDENT: The objection of Government is that they work under totalitarian influences and so are not satisfied with supervision work by managements. They want a complete control over all primary schools established in the State. If possible they would even manage them directly through the Department.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I perfectly agree and I can appreciate. But then the communique is unhappily worded. If I am allowed to say something more, the contents of the communique do not be speak of the dignity or the claim of Government. In these circumstances I appeal to Government to persuade managements to behave properly. Government ought not to be affected by their seeming irregularities. Government have fully realised that the lot of grant-in-aid teachers is deplorable and that they should hasten to their rescue. When all servants of Government are allowed to draw something in the shape of war allowance, why should this set of people alone be denied that, passes beyond my comprehension. There is the outstanding fact that Government are prepared to be charitable in this affair.

PRESIDENT: Yes: charity to whom, is the only question.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : If Government can distribute charity to one set of their servants in a particular department no distinction need be maintained in regard to servants of other departments. I consider these primary school teachers are in a sense under Government discipline. Why should not the same treatment be meted out to one and all Government servants or non-Government servants? Why should not Government set a noble example in the matter of distributing charity? Even if there be exhibitions of nauseous elements in certain institutions, Government should not mind them and be un-influenced by that distemper. As the phrase goes, one should not look a gift horse in the mouth. So far as Government is concerned it is not a case of ordering charity but dispensing it.

Let us examine once again the Government communique on the subject. Mr. Velayudhan Pillai says that the Government have kept back the amount intended for the purpose of distribution to aided school teachers. What is the reason for that? There are managers as the head of the grant-in-aid institutions. If the contributions of Government are entrusted to them, the head of the Education Department can exercise his right to see to the proper distribution of the same. No circumstance has arisen for keeping back payment. If payment is withheld, the state of affairs will be aggravated and greater discontentment will be the result. My question is only this. Have the Government determind to give a helping hand to the grant in-aid teachers who are under private managements? Whether the teachers are under private managements or otherwise they remain as teachers. Whether they are controlled by Government or otherwise, they continue as teachers. That their lot is deplorable has been conceded by Government. I implore Government to give them help by payment of War allowance. I entreat Government to distribute straightaway to managements this item of contribution, irrespective of their contributing a legitimate and equal share or not.

PRESIDENT : There are certain managements who have said that they are not able to contribute even Rs. 2 and that Government also should pay that. In that case what is the attitude of the House on such managements?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : That matter must become the subject of close scrutiny by a responsible officer of the type of Director of Public Instruction.

PRESIDENT : Suppose it is found on such scrutiny that certain managements are absolutely unable to pay up their contribution of Rs. 2 to the teacher, should the Government pay up that? According to his notion of charity, should not this item of expense be meted out to them by Government along with their own contribution in such instances?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : It does not matter.

PRESIDENT : It means that Government should pay the amount if it comes to that—

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Yes; if the management is found to be really poor.

PRESIDENT : Another point arises out of this. If Government finds that managements are unable to effect even their payment of Rs. 8 to the teachers, as a consequence of their very poor condition, is it the view of the House that Government should pay up that amount also along with the war allowance of Rs. 2?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Then that is a case of cheating Government. It is better that managements of such kind are not allowed to function. Institutions that commit fraud should be put out of work instantly. As I said, if the managements are really poor from the financial point of view, a thorough enquiry should be conducted by the Director of Public Instruction in the matter.

PRESIDENT : There is no question of dishonesty because some persons have gone so far as to say 'We cannot possibly maintain these schools unless we can get two rupees for payment of the salaries of the teachers.' What does the honourable member say for that?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI ; I am surprised at that. Why should they exist? For whom do they exist? My suggestion is that if the Government feel that the management could not themselves continue conducting the school, they should take up the work themselves. My whole point is that it is the primary duty of Government to see that free education is given to everybody, and as such, the Government are bound to give all facilities if others take them up for that purpose. The teachers are doing good work and between the Government and the management, they have to bear the brunt of the struggle. It is not a case of their mistake.

PRESIDENT : Government are aware of teachers giving receipts for eight rupees when they actually get five or six rupees. What is the influence of those teachers on the pupils?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : You put them above want. That is the first method, Yet I know it continues. That is what we find in all the walks of life. The practice goes on everywhere. It evolves and evolves until it becomes a vicious circle covering the whole world.

PRESIDENT : Does the honourable member suggest that it does not matter whether the teachers get five rupees or six rupees, but the Government should pay the two rupees?

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : The whole thing is the mischief under a vicious circle. That is why I say that a piecemeal correction will not do. A thorough overhauling has become imperative.

What is the poor teacher to do till then? When the grants are withheld, it is he who has to suffer, it is he who has to forego his salary. And in these days when the price of things are soaring, it is impossible for him to manage. By the time we have discussed these things and come to some conclusion, he would have undergone many difficulties and privations. Whatever may be the laudable object of Government, it is frustrated by the management and by all these wranglings. It behove this Government to allow these teachers something in the nature of a war allowance of two rupees. Government

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must give the lead in such matters. Institutions which are working in the wrong way may also be infected with the spirit infused by Government, and at least in future they will try to follow the example of Government. What I would, therefore, appeal to Government is this: You pay the money, and pay it without wrangling. Pay it with grace. Then the teacher will get some war allowance which will relieve him considerably. I understand that the Government are reluctant because they do not approve of the actions of the management. But that should not go to deprive the teacher of what is legitimately due to him. That will be a hindrance to the teacher in his work, admittedly a work on the foundation of national structure.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: I wish to say a few words on the motion before the House. It is my desire that the benefit contemplated by Government should be made available to the poor teacher in the grant-in-aid schools as soon as it is possible. There was a time, Sir, when it was considered an offence on the part of teachers to exercise their rights and ask for more pay. And I had occasion to defend them and to prevent Government taking action against such people for asking for more. And I am therefore extremely happy that the present Government have come to the rescue of the poor teacher out of their spontaneous generosity. The matter before the House is an extremely difficult one. If this motion contemplates a suggested censure on the management, I would oppose the resolution.

PRESIDENT: It is not worded like that.

SADASYATILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI: No. I am sorry Sir, that when every one of us is discussing a matter of such importance, it should be possible for anybody to expound principles which are capable of being misconstrued. I do not refer to bodies like the N. S. S. or the Catholic School. For, Sir, I am one who feels that notwithstanding certain communities doing such work it is to the glory of some persons that they make education possible in the State. More and more schools are coming forward and Government are very careful in all legitimate measures. All honour to the promoters and all honour to the Government. When a private individual offers a sum of 20 or 50 thousand rupees to the Travancore University, I do not believe it unless the payment is made. There have been various offers of payment and some cases where actual payments have not been made. It is very good to repose confidence. But so long as human nature remains the same you will see that intentions sometimes are not actualities.

My friend Mr. Sivathanu Pillai said he had no knowledge of schools. But I have some knowledge because I was a teacher in one of the private schools. When on an occasion I was given Rs. 18 and asked to sign an acquittance roll for Rs. 25—it was a time when I had some spirit in me. I said 'What is the fun of giving me Rs. 18 and asking me to sign for Rs. 25? I am not going to do that.' The Accountant complained to the manager. But the manager said 'What is the fun of asking Mr. Velu Pillai to sign for Rs. 25 when he is paid only

Rs. 18?' What I want to point out is that this practice has been in existence even thirty years ago, though I could not be prevailed upon to acquiesce into it. And I may say that this evil exists in other parts of India also.

Before I support this motion it is my privilege to say that there are schools started by various foundations, religious and others, who have done great service to the country and their work for the last one hundred years has also been apprcciated. It would be ingratitude on my part not to recognise it. I support the motion also for the reason that the resolution does not contemplate in penalising the teachers. It is an innocuous resolution. I am not concerned with the Government statements, whether they are well-worded or ill-worded. If it comes before the House in another manner I would give it the same reception. As the time at present is very limited, I shall avail myself of any future opportunity and be brief in my remarks now.

The Government, out of their generosity, promise to give some money, about two lakhs of rupees to be distributed to these half-starved teachers. The Government say it is only a war-time measure, a temporary measure. Therefore, even as a man donating some money for some charitable purpose can stipulate as to how that fund should be spent, Government, having promised to make that payment, can stipulate upon the arrangements that are necessary for the distribution of that money. I do not wish to make any reflection upon any management. The Government are setting out an example for them to follow. But this is a mere matter of beneficence, munificence, of spontaneous generosity. If the Government say, 'We are doing this. We expect you to do likewise', it is not any reflection upon any management. Therefore, Sir, this question of deciding upon the agency is entirely left to Government. Various difficulties may arise with regard to the presentation of cheques. For example teachers in schools at Thodupuzha etc. may find some difficulty to go to the treasuries. These difficulties, I am sure, the Director of Public Instruction, will provide for. Therefore, I am supporting the motion.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: മി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ള ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച അടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹൃദയപൂർവം അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുള്ള പ്രൈമറിസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ദയനീയമായ നിലയെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനു ഉപയുക്തമായ ഒരു പ്രമേയമാണു് ഇതു് എന്നു് എല്ലാവക്കും അറിയാം. ഇന്നു് പ്രൈമറിസ്കൂൾ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരോടു അവരുടെ മാനേജരന്മാർ വളരെ മൃഗീയമായ രീതിയിലാണു് പെരുമാറുന്നതെന്നു് വ്യസനസമേതം ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. എന്നാൽ ഏതാനും ചില മാനേജരന്മാർ മാന്യമായും പെരുമാറുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഓരോ സ്കൂളിലുള്ള ഓരോ അദ്ധ്യാപകനും വ്യക്തിപ്രാപ്തം ഗ്രാൻറു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നാണു് നിയമമെങ്കിലും അവരിൽ ആർക്കുംതന്നെ ആ തുക കിട്ടുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനെ

[Mr. A. K. Kumaran Vaidyan.]

ഞാൻ അനുസ്മരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇപ്രകാരമാണ് ഈ കാര്യത്തെപ്പററി എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചതു്. ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു സ്കൂളിലെ അദ്ധ്യാപകനോടു മുഴുവൻ ഗ്രാൻറും കിട്ടാറുണ്ടോ എന്നു ചോദിച്ചാൽ കിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നു തന്നെയാണ് അവർ പറയുന്നതു്. മുഴുവൻ ഗ്രാൻറും കിട്ടുന്നുവെന്നു പറയുന്നവരുടെ സംഖ്യ വളരെ ചുരുക്കമാണെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളതു്. ഈ യുദ്ധകാലത്തു് രണ്ടു രൂപാ വാർ അലവൻസ് ഗവൺമെൻറു ട്രഷറികളിൽ അടയ്ക്കാൻ മിക്ക മാനേജർമ്മാർക്കും കഴിവില്ല. ഇപ്രകാരം സന്മാർഗ്ഗപ്രചരണം നടത്താൻ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സ്കൂൾ മാനേജരന്മാർ ൨ രൂപാ ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടയ്ക്കാൻ വിസമ്മതിക്കുമ്പോൾ അതിനുള്ളിൽ ഏതോ ഒരു രഹസ്യം ഉണ്ടെന്നാണു ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതു്. ഏതു സമുദായത്തിൽപ്പെട്ടവരുടെ സ്കൂളുകളിലായാലും ഈ മാതിരി തെററുകൾ കാണും.

കേവലം ആദായത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയല്ലാ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപ്രചരണത്തിനുവേണ്ടിയാണു ഈ സ്കൂളുകൾ നടത്തുന്നതു്. ആ നില നോക്കുമ്പോൾ രണ്ടു രൂപ വീതം കെട്ടിവയ്ക്കുന്നതു് മാനേജർമാർക്കു ആക്ഷേപകരമാണെന്നു പറയുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. രണ്ടായിരമൊ മൂവായിരമൊ കെട്ടിവച്ചാലെ സ്കൂളുകൾ നടത്താവൂ എന്നു ഗവൺമെൻറു പറഞ്ഞാൽ ആ തുക കെട്ടിവെയ്ക്കാനും മാനേജർമാർ തയ്യാറാവുകയില്ലേ? ലാഭകരമായ ഒരേർപ്പാടാണ് സ്കൂൾ നടത്തിപ്പ് എന്നു കണ്ടിട്ടാണ് അവർ അപ്രകാരം ചെയ്യാൻ ഒരുങ്ങുന്നതു്. സദുദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടി നടത്തുന്ന സ്കൂളുകൾ ഇല്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. പക്ഷെ, അതു് കൈവിരലുകൾകൊണ്ടു് എണ്ണത്തക്കവണ്ണം അത്ര കുറച്ചേയുള്ളു. ഏതായാലും ഇന്നത്തെ നിലയ്ക്കു ഗവൺമെൻറിനു ഗ്രാൻറുസ്കൂളുകളേയും അവിടെ അദ്ധ്യാപകവൃത്തിയിൽ കഴിഞ്ഞുകൂടുന്ന അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരെയും സഹായിക്കേണ്ട ചുമതലയുണ്ടു്. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ പരമാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ഉൽക്കണ്ഠയുണ്ടെന്നു എനിക്കറിയാം. അതുപോലെതന്നെ ഇന്നത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസഡയറക്ടരും ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ ദയനീയനിലയെപ്പററി വേണ്ടതുപോലെ ഗ്രഹിക്കുകയും അതിനെന്തെങ്കിലും പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കിയാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നു ആഗ്രഹിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതിൽ യാതൊരു സംശയവുമില്ല. നാട്ടിൻപുറങ്ങളിൽ അവിടത്തെ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ സ്ഥിതിഗതികളെപ്പററി അന്വേഷിച്ചറിയുന്നതിൽ അദ്ദേഹം അതീവ തൽപ്പരനാണ്. ദിവാൻജി അവർകളും ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ അതീവ ശ്രദ്ധാലുവാണെന്നെനിക്കറിയാം. ഇതിനിടയിൽ വേറൊരുകാര്യംകൂടി ഞാൻ കേൾക്കുകയുണ്ടായി,

ഭൂരിപക്ഷം സ്കൂളുകളും ഇന്നു ക്രിസ്ത്യാനികൾക്കായതുകൊണ്ടു് അവരുടെ ഈദൃശോദ്യമത്തെ അടിച്ചുടക്കാനുള്ള ഒരു സംരംഭമാണിതെന്നു് ചിലർ പറയുന്നുണ്ടു. അതിൽ അശേഷം പരമാർത്ഥം ഇല്ലെന്നു അല്പം ആലോചിച്ചാൽ അറിയാം.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ഈ നയത്തെ പരോക്ഷമായി എതിർക്കുന്നതിനു ഒരു കൂട്ടർ കരുതിക്കൂട്ടി എടുത്തിരിക്കുന്ന വിദ്യയാണിതെന്നു മെംബർക്കു അറിയാമോ?

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN : അതും കേട്ടു. ഇതിലൊന്നിലും ഒരു പരമാർത്ഥവുമില്ല.

ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ഒരു കാര്യംകൂടി ഗവൺമെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽകൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഗവൺമെന്റ് ഇപ്പോൾ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന ഗ്രാന്റു് ൪ രൂപയും മാനേജർമാർ കൊടുക്കുന്നതും ഗവൺമെന്റു കൊടുക്കുന്നതും ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള, വാർ അലവൻസ് നാലു രൂപയും—ഇങ്ങനെ പന്ത്രണ്ടു രൂപ ട്രഷറിയിൽനിന്നും അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ നേരിട്ടുവാങ്ങത്തക്കവണ്ണം വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇതിനു ചില പ്രതിബന്ധങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ലെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ഏതാനും ചില സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾതന്നെ ഈ ശ്രമത്തെ തടസ്സപ്പെടുത്താൻ ഉദ്യമിക്കുമെന്നും വന്നേക്കാം. ഇതൊന്നും വകവയ്ക്കാതെ ഈ പദ്ധതി ഗവൺമെന്റിൽനിന്നു നടപ്പാക്കണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : വാർ അലവൻസ് പബ്ലിക്കു സർവീസിലിരിക്കുന്ന എല്ലാവർക്കും കൊടുത്തു തുടങ്ങുമ്പോൾ ഗ്രാന്റുസ്കൂളിൽ ജോലിനോക്കുന്ന അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കുമാത്രം കൊടുക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും നീതിയല്ലാ എന്നുള്ളതു് ആരും സമ്മതിക്കുന്നതാണ്. അവരുടെ ദയനീയനിലയെ പരിഗണിച്ചു് അലവൻസ് കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് ഗവൺമെന്റു തീരുമാനിച്ചു. എന്നാൽ കൊടുക്കേണ്ട വിധത്തെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുകയും ഈ അലവൻസ് അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു നേരിട്ടുകൊടുക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യുകയും ചെയ്തു. എന്നാൽ മാനേജർമാർ കൂടി രണ്ടുരൂപാവീതം അവർക്കു കിട്ടത്തക്കവിധം ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടച്ചിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നുള്ള ഒരു ഉപാധിയിൻമേലാണ് ഗവൺമെന്റു ഈ തീരുമാനം ചെയ്തതു്. മാനേജർമാർ ഇപ്രകാരം രണ്ടു രൂപാവീതം കെട്ടിവച്ചുകൊള്ളണമെന്നു് അവരെ നിർബന്ധിക്കുന്നതായ രീതിയിൽ യാതൊരു വ്യവസ്ഥയും ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. രണ്ടു രൂപവീതം മാനേജർമാർ ട്രഷറി

[Mr. K. P. Kochukora Tharakan.]

യിൽ അടച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ അവരുടെ സ്കൂളിൻെറ അംഗീകാരം പിൻവലിച്ചുകളയുമെന്നോ മറെറാ ഉള്ള യാതൊരു നിർബന്ധവുമില്ല, നിബന്ധനയുമില്ല. ആ നിലക്കു ഈ അടിയന്തിരപ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം തന്നെയില്ലെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. മാനേജർമാർ രണ്ടു രൂപാ വീതം ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടച്ചാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും രണ്ടു രൂപകൂടി അലവൻസായി കൊടുക്കും; നാലുരൂപ അങ്ങനെ വാദ്ധ്യാന്മാർക്കു കിട്ടും. ഏതാനും പേർക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിബന്ധനയനുസരിച്ചു് രണ്ടു രൂപാവീതം ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടയ്ക്കാൻ സമ്മതമില്ല എന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചു് അങ്ങനെ സമ്മതമില്ലാത്ത മാനേജ്മെൻറിലെ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു അലവൻസ് കൊടുക്കേണ്ട. ഗവണ്മെൻറു അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ കൊടുത്തേക്കണമെന്നല്ലാതെ, മാനേജരന്മാരുടെ ഹിതാഹിതങ്ങളെ ആരായേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലായിരുന്നു എന്നാണ് എനിക്കു് തോന്നുന്നതു്. രണ്ടു ലക്ഷം രൂപ ഇക്കാര്യത്തിനായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു നീക്കിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. പാവപ്പെട്ട അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു അതു ലഭിക്കാനുള്ള വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്യുക. മാനേജുമെൻറ് ൨ രൂപാവീതം അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ട്രഷറിയിൽ അടയ്ക്കുന്നതിനു വിസമ്മതിക്കുന്ന സ്കൂളുകൾക്കു് കൊടുക്കണ്ടാ എന്നു വെച്ചാൽ പോരെ? അല്ലാതെ അതിനു സമ്മതിക്കാത്ത മാനേജർമാരുടെ സ്കൂളുകൾക്കുള്ള അംഗീകാരം പിൻവലിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ചില സാമാജികന്മാർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നതായി കേട്ടു. പക്ഷേ, അങ്ങനെ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു വ്യവസ്ഥയുണ്ടായാൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപരമായ പ്രവൎത്തനത്തെ അതു് എങ്ങനെ ബാധിക്കുമെന്നു് നാം നല്ലവണ്ണം മനസിലാക്കിക്കൊണ്ടു് വേണം എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രവർത്തിക്കാനെന്നേ എനിക്കു അതിനെപ്പററി പറയുവാനുള്ളു. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ആർഡർ അനുസരിച്ചു് മാനേജർമാർ പ്രവൎത്തിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു കൊടുക്കാനുദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന രണ്ടു രൂപ കൊടുക്കേണ്ട.

സർ, ഇവിടെ മൂന്നുതരം സ്കൂളുകളാണുള്ളതെന്നു ചിലർ പറയുകളുണ്ടായി. എൻെറ അഭിപ്രായത്തിൽ, നാലുവിധം സ്കൂളുകളാണു് ഇവിടെ കാണുന്നതു്. ഒന്നാമത്തു, ലാഭത്തിനുവേണ്ടി സ്കൂൾ നടത്തുക; പിന്നെ, മതപ്രചരണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി; അടുത്തതു്, അഭിമാനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി; നാലാമത്തു്, ഒരു സ്കൂൾ നടത്തേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നു കണ്ടിട്ടു് അതിനുവേണ്ടി നടത്തുക. ഇങ്ങനെ ഏതു് ആവശ്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി സ്കൂളുകൾ

നടത്തിയാലും ഗവർമെൻറ് ഒന്നേ നോക്കേണ്ടതുള്ളു; അതാതു സ്കൂളുകൾ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസംബന്ധമായ ജോലികൾ ശരിയായി നിർവഹിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ എന്ന്. ഗവർമെൻറ് അതിനെപ്പററി ശരിയായി അന്വേഷിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും വേണ്ട വിധം കർശനമായി പരിശോധന നടത്തിവരുന്നുമുണ്ട്. ഗവർമെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഗ്രാൻറുവാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനായി സ്കൂൾ നടത്താമെന്നും മററും പറഞ്ഞു് നൂറും ഇരുനൂറും രൂപ വീതം അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരോട് വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു ചിലർ ഇവിടെ പറയുന്നതുകേട്ടു. നാലോ അഞ്ചോ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ ഒന്നിച്ച് ചേർന്ന് അവരിലൊരാളിനെ മാനേജർ ആക്കി സ്കൂൾകെട്ടിടം പണിതീർത്തു പഠനം തുടങ്ങി ഗ്രാൻറുവാങ്ങി അവരുടെ ഉദരപൂരണത്തിനുവേണ്ടിമാത്രം സ്കൂൾ നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതായി എനിക്ക് അറിയാം. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഇക്കാര്യങ്ങളൊന്നും ഗവർമെൻറു നോക്കേണ്ട. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവർമെൻറ് അഭിലഷിക്കുന്ന പ്രകാരമുള്ള വിദ്യാഭ്യാസാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കു സഹായകരമാകാതിരിക്കുന്ന വിദ്യാഭ്യാസസ്ഥാപനങ്ങളുടെ അംഗീകാരവും അനുവാദവും പിൻവലിക്കുന്നതിൽ എനിക്കു യാതൊരു ആക്ഷേപവുമില്ല. ശരിയായി വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം കുട്ടികൾക്ക് കൊടുക്കുന്ന വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളെ തടയുന്നതു ഒരിക്കലും ശരിയല്ല. വാർ അലവൻസ് കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ, എല്ലാപേരും ഉദ്ദേശശുദ്ധിയോടുകൂടിയാണോ സ്കൂൾനടത്തുന്നതു എന്നൊന്നും ഗവർമെൻറിനു ഇപ്പോൾ നോക്കേണ്ടകാര്യമില്ല. മാനേജർമാർ വാർ അലവൻസ് അവരുടെ കൈയിൽനിന്നും കൊടുക്കാത്ത പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗവർമെൻറും അലവൻസ്സ് കൊടുക്കേണ്ട എന്നുവെച്ചാൽ മതിയാകും. ഒരു കാര്യംകൂടി ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ പറയാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഗ്രാൻറ് ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കുതന്നെ നേരിട്ടുവാങ്ങത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ എന്തെങ്കിലും വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണ്. കൊച്ചിയിൽ ഇതു് നേരിട്ടു അവർക്കു കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നു. ഗ്രാൻറിൻെറ ആദായം മാനേജർമാർ എടുത്തുവരുന്നു എന്നു പറയുന്നതു് എപ്പോഴും ശരിയല്ല. ഒരു പള്ളിക്കൂടത്തിൽ നാലു ക്ലാസ്സു കാണും. രണ്ടു ക്ലാസിലേക്കേ ഗ്രാൻറുകാണുകയുള്ളു. ൧൬ രൂപയേ ഗ്രാൻറുകിട്ടുന്നുള്ളു എന്നിരിക്കട്ടെ. അതു നാലു അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാക്കായി വീതിച്ച് നാന്നാലു രൂപ വീതം കൊടുക്കുന്ന പല പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളും ഉണ്ട്. ഈ നാലുരൂപായുടെ കൂടെ മാനേജരുടെ കൈയ്യിൽ നിന്നും കുറെക്കൂടെ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളും ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. ഗ്രാൻറ് വാങ്ങുന്നതിൽ ഒരു വീതം എടു

[Mr. K. P. Kochukora Tharakan.]

ക്കുന്ന മാനേജർമാരും അത്ര കുറവല്ല. എന്നാൽ ഈ വക പ്രവൃത്തികൾ ഒരു പ്രദേശത്തോ ഒരു സമുദായത്തിലൊ മാത്രമുള്ളതല്ലെന്നും കൂടെ പറയുവാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു. ഏതായാലും വാർഅലവൻസിൻെറ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇതൊന്നും നോക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൻെറ ആജ്ഞ അനുസരിക്കുന്നവർക്ക് അലവൻസ്സ് കൊടുക്കണം. അതിനു സമ്മതമില്ലാത്തവർക്ക് ആ അലവൻസ്സ് കൊടുക്കണ്ടാ എന്നു വെച്ചാൽ ധാരാളം മതിയാകും.

PRESIDENT: I have to call the Director of Public Instruction and one or two more honourable members. So the honourable member will curtail his remarks'

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഈ സംഗതിയിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ദീർഘദൃഷ്ടിയോടുകൂടി ആലോചിച്ച് വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യണമെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളത്. ഗവണ്മെൻറു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഓരോ കാശും, ആർക്കുവേണ്ടി അതു കൊടുക്കുന്നുവൊ അവർക്കുതന്നെ ലഭിക്കത്തക്ക വിധം വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു വളരെ ആവശ്യമാണ്.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഇത്രയും പറഞ്ഞതു മെംബറുടെ സ്വന്ത അഭിപ്രായത്തിലാണോ, അതൊ, ആരെങ്കിലും ഇപ്രകാരം ഇവിടെ വന്നു പറയണമെന്ന് ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടതനുസരിച്ചാണോ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: എൻെറ സ്വന്ത അഭിപ്രായമാണ്. മററാളുകൾ പറഞ്ഞറിയിച്ചിട്ടു ഇവിടെ വന്നു പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യം എനിക്കില്ല.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: ഒരു പൊതുജനപ്രതിനിധി എന്ന നിലയിൽ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമുള്ള ഒരുസ്ഥാനം വഹിക്കുന്ന ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർക്ക് ഇത്തരം നിഷേധികളായ മാനേജർമാരുടെ പ്രവർത്തികളെ സാധൂകരിച്ച് പ്രസ്താവിക്കുവാൻ എങ്ങനെ ധൈര്യമുണ്ടായി എന്ന് സദയം പ്രസ്താവിക്കുമോ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN; മെംബറിൻെറ ഈ ത്തരം ചോദ്യത്തിനു ഉത്തരം പറയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: സർ, സഹോദരസാമാജികന്മാരുടെ സംഭാഷണങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും ഗ്രഹിക്കാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞതനുസരിച്ച് സ്കൂൾ മാനേജരന്മാരെ നാലായി തരം തിരിക്കാവുന്നതാണ്. ഒന്നാമത്ത് സർക്കാർകൊടുക്കുന്ന ഗ്രാൻറ് അതേപടി അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്ന മാനേജർമാർ, രണ്ടാമത്തു ഈ സംഖ്യ എല്ലാം ഒന്നിച്ചു കെട്ടിവാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ട് ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു പലപ്പോഴായി കൊടുത്തുതീർക്കുന്ന

വർ, മൂന്നാമത് പിച്ചച്ചട്ടിയിൽനിന്നും കൈയ്യിട്ടു വാരുന്നതുപോലെ ഇവരുടെ ഗ്രാൻറിൽനിന്നും നക്കാപ്പിച്ച എടുത്തു ഉപജീവനം നടത്തുന്ന മാനേജർമാർ, നാലാമത് അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ ശരിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കി കാലസ്ഥിതി അനുസരിച്ച് അവർക്കു ഉപജീവനം കഴിക്കുവാനുള്ള ശമ്പളം കൊടുത്തു മനുഷ്യസഹജമായ ജീവകാരുണ്യത്തോടുകൂടി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നവർ — ഇങ്ങനെ നാലുതരം മാനേജർമാരെ നാം കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. യുദ്ധംതുടങ്ങുന്നതിനുമുമ്പുതന്നെ ഇതിൽ ആദ്യം പറഞ്ഞ മൂന്നു കൂട്ടരെക്കൊണ്ടും അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ വളരെബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചുവന്നതായി കണ്ടതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറു നൽകുന്ന ഗ്രാൻറു അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു നേരിട്ടുകിട്ടത്തക്കവണ്ണം വ്യവസ്ഥ ചെയ്യണമെന്നുള്ള വാദം കൊണ്ടുവന്നത്. ഈവാദം ഉണ്ടായപ്പോഴെല്ലാം ഈ മൂന്നുതരം മാനേജർമാരുടെ ശല്യത്തെപ്പററിയും അവർ ഇതു പ്രയോഗത്തിൽവരുത്താൻ തടസ്സമായി നിൽക്കുന്നുവെന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പററിയും പറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ട് ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകൾ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്തത്. ഗ്രാൻറു അരരൂപകൂടി കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ ആ തുകകൂടി കൊടുത്തു മാനേജർമാരുടെ പള്ള വീർപ്പിക്കണമെന്നാണോ മെംബർമാരുടെ ഉദ്ദേശം എന്ന് ആയിരുന്നു ഡയറക്ടർ അവർകളുടെ ചോദ്യം. എന്നാൽ ഇന്നു രണ്ടു രൂപകൂടി വാർ അലവൻസ് എന്ന പേരിൽ കൊടുക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു തയ്യാറാകുന്നു. പക്ഷെ രണ്ടുരൂപ മാനേജർമാർകൂടി കൊടുക്കണം. അതു് കേവലം ധർമ്മബുദ്ധികൊണ്ടു കൊടുക്കണമെന്നല്ലാ പറയുന്നത്. ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ മാനേജർമാരുടെ ധർമ്മബുദ്ധികൊണ്ടു മാത്രം രണ്ടുരൂപകൂടി കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതു ശരിയല്ലാ. ചില അത്യാവശ്യഘട്ടങ്ങളിൽ ചില അടിയന്തിരപ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ നടത്തിയേകഴിയൂ. രാജ്യത്തെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ പുരോഗതിക്കുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടൊപ്പം പരിശ്രമിക്കുന്ന ഈ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ ജീവിതത്തോത് ഉയർത്തുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറു എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ, അതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ഒരു കടമ നിറവേററുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടിമാത്രമാണ്. അതുപോലുള്ള ഒരുകടമ മാനേജരന്മാർക്കും ഉണ്ടു. അവർ അതിനു വിസമ്മതിക്കുന്നെങ്കിൽ, സമ്മതിക്കുന്നതിനു വഴികളുമുണ്ട്.

ഒരു കർഷകൻ കഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടു് വേലചെയ്തു് ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന നെല്ലു ഇന്നത്തെ പരിതഃസ്ഥിതിയിൽ, പറയ്ക്കു് ഇത്ര രൂപ വിലയ്ക്കു കൊടുത്തു കൊള്ളണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു നിർബന്ധിക്കാൻ കടമയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ വ്യസമ്മതം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്ന ഗ്രാൻറുസ്കൂൾ മാനേജരന്മാരുടെ·പക്കൽ

നിന്നും ഒരു ചെറിയ തുക ഗവമ്മെൻറിലേയ്ക്കു് അടയ്ക്കണമെന്നു പറയുവാനും ഗവമ്മെൻറിനു് കടമയുണ്ടെന്നാണു് തോന്നുന്നതു. എൻെറ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. ഡൊമിനിക്ക് ജോസഫ് പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ മനുഷ്യസഹജമായ ബുദ്ധിയോടുകൂടി അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരോട് പെരുമാറുന്ന ചില മാനേജരന്മാരുണ്ടു്. ഗവമ്മെൻറു നിർബന്ധിക്കാതെതന്നെ കൂടുതൽ ശമ്പളം കൊടുക്കുന്നവർക്കു്, ഈ നയം സങ്കടമായിതോന്നാം. മററു മൂന്നുതരം മാനേജരന്മാരോടൊപ്പം അവരെയും ഗണിച്ചു എന്നുള്ള വല്ലായ്മയുണ്ടാവാം. എന്നാൽ ഒരു പൊതുതത്വത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി പ്രവർത്തിക്കുമ്പോൾ, വ്യത്യസ്ഥമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു അപലപനീയമാകും. മുൻപെതന്നെ കരുണയോടുകൂടി ഗ്രാൻറിലും കൂടുതൽ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള മാനേജരന്മാർക്കും സമാധാനത്തിനു വഴിയുണ്ടു്. അവർ കുറച്ചു സംഖ്യ നഷ്ടപ്പെട്ടാലും മററു മൂന്നുതരം മാനേജരന്മാരും രണ്ടു രൂപാവീതം കെട്ടിവെയ്ക്കുമെന്നും അതുമൂലം അനേകായിരം സാധുക്കൾ രക്ഷപ്പെടുമെന്നും ഉള്ളതാണു. മുൻപെതന്നെ നല്ല ശമ്പളം കൊടുത്തുവന്ന മാനേജരന്മാർക്കുവേണ്ടി ഈ രണ്ടു രൂപാ അവരെ ഏല്പിച്ചും ഖജനാവിൽ ഒടുക്കിക്കാനും സർക്കാർ സഹായമെങ്കിലും വാങ്ങാനും, അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർ തന്നെ തയ്യാറുള്ളതായും അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ചില മാനേജരന്മാർ നിർദ്ദേശിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായും കേൾവിയുണ്ടു്. പ്രാഥമികവിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നിർബന്ധിതമാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഗവമ്മെൻറിൻെറ സദുദ്ദേശത്തെ പാലിക്കണമെങ്കിൽ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ മററാരാളുടെ അഭിപ്രായം പരിഗണിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. ആയതിനാൽ സാധുക്കളായ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ പട്ടിണിപ്രശ്നത്തിനു എന്തെങ്കിലും പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവമ്മെൻറിൻെറ സത്വരശ്രദ്ധപതിയണമെന്നു് അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് മി. ടി. പി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ ശക്തിയായി പിൻതാങ്ങിക്കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Sir, I am not in favour of direct payment of the war allowance to the aided school teachers. My reasons are these: In the matter of grant-in-aid the Government are paying it through the management and I do not see why there should be a different rule in the payment of the war allowance. The question is whether Government should insist indirectly paying the teachers or disburse through the managers. It has been decided.........

PRESIDENT: I think the honourable member may note this point. There is no question of the Government paying or declining to pay anybody. The Government have no discretion in the matter. It is not as if Government saying: "I do not like you, so, I do not pay you; or,

you teach properly, then, I shall pay you, "and so on". The moment the management pay the Rs. 2 the Government is automatically bound to pay the Rs. 2. There is no question of discretion in the Government.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Now then, it is decided by Government to pay their portion of the allowance whether the managers be good or bad. What I say is that if the grant can be paid by Government through the management, this allowance must also be paid through the same agency.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : If the grant is paid direct to the teachers, then, has the honourable member any objection to the allowance being paid direct?

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR : Certainly, I have no objection ; but I say Government must adopt it as a matter of general policy.

As to the other question of Government declining the payment of the sum of Rs. 2 if the managements do not deposit their share, I would suggest that whether the managers pay or do not pay, Government should not withhold the amount they have sanctioned. It may be that some managers find it difficult to get the necessary funds; for example in the case of the schools run by the Roman Catholics, I know that it is the individual churches that have to find the amount needed for the maintenance and upkeep of schools and that responsibility is not on the Bishop. There are managers, I do not deny, who may be unwilling to pay; but there are others who are unable to pay, for want of sufficient means. After all, whether the managers are good or bad, they are doing a duty incumbent on the Government. If primary education is to be successfully carried out by private persons and bodies it is the duty of Government to extend help to those who are engaged in the work. I wish Government to take up the whole question in that light. As it is, there is some sort of discouragement created on management schools, though I have no doubt, the Government have only good intentions. So, if any managements do not come forward with their share or, if they are unable, the Government should not fail to help the aided school teacher.

I think there is also another point. These teachers are under the management. There is the question of supervision by the management and also desciplinc. When the teachers receive their pay and war allowance through the managers they would submit themselves to the authority of the managers. But that would not be the position if they are to receive their salary and allowances direct from Government.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON (*Director of Public Instruction*) : Sir, the delay in the payment of war allowance to teachers of primary schools has been due to the need for preliminary investigations and the time taken to make the necessary arrangements for the disbursement of war allowance.

I am afraid that the whole implication of the present policy of the Government has not been understood by some of the honourable members. It is now intended that the whole amount of the grant, *i. e.*, the original grant of Rs. 8 or 9 or 10 as the case may be, with

[Mr. A. Gopala Menon].

the additional grant of war allowance should be paid to the teachers by cheques by the inspecting officers of the department. It is this policy that has come in for some protest or opposition from certain managements. That position has been made clear by some of the honourable members; but there appears to have been a misunderstanding among others.

Now, the Government Order comprises three parts; payment of Rs. 2 by the management *i. e*, contribution and payment into the treasury of this Rs. 2; and contribution by Government of Rs. 2 more; and the issue of cheques for Rs. 12 or 14 as the case may be as payment to the teachers.

In the first place, it was necessary to consult the managers of schools because it implied the obligation on their part to pay Rs. 2 more. Therefore I enquired of the corporate managers and asked my officers to enquire of other managers how far they were agreeable to that proposal. Replies were received from a large number of managements agreeing to the proposal. Replies were also received from a certain number of corporate managements protesting against the scheme. I do not see why they should have protested. They say that it involved an additional responsibility to pay a similar allowance to other employees under them and that there is no fund for all these. They pretend that they do not need funds nor are they prepared to pay. There were other statements made in reply by other managements and other parties, that they are paying a war allowance already, and that the Rs. 2 proposed by Government may be paid to the managers concerned. There were others who stated that they were unable to pay the Rs. 2.........

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: May I know whether they are amenable to direct payment by the department?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Yes, many of them. Sir, the point on which opinion was invited was the grant by the management of their share of the allowance, because it involved an obligation on the part of the management to pay something more.

The second part of the resolution related to the Government's paying Rs. 2. Within a few days of the submission of the Director's proposals the necessary funds were sanctioned by Government for the purpose.

Then comes the third part, and that is that the whole grant should be paid direct to the teachers. I never thought that any opinion should be called on this point. I have been contending in this House on many occasions that teachers are the employees of the management and that these teachers have to appeal to the management for any help they require. The department is dealing with the managers. Honourable members have stated time and again that the private school teacher is as much a public servant as any Government employee. I was persuaded to accept that view; and in view of that, I thought

that if they are Government servants the Government had every right to pay them direct. If the managers have anything to pay they are at perfect liberty to pay them in their own way. The Government can pay them in whatever manner they are pleased. That was the position I considered reasonable.

On the question whether the payment should be made direct to teachers by the Government or not, I assumed there would be no controversy; but, nevertheless, as the position was explained in the Press Communique, the whole question occasioned a change in the attitude of persons who originally agreed to the proposal.

That was why the Department at any rate could not proceed further in the matter until some definite decision was taken.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: May I know the reason why the payment was made conditional on the management paying two rupees, while the original grant of eight rupees was not conditional?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I am glad that the question has been raised. The original grant was made on the understanding and condition that the grant formed 50 per cent of the salary of the teachers. It was assumed that the Manager would be paying the teachers Rs. 16 per mensom and that Government would pay Rs. 8 or 50 per cent. of it. Similarly, when the war allowance was thought of we insisted that half of four rupees shall be given by the managers.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Do all the managers usually pay Rs. 16?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Some do, but most do not; and they are more than honest in such cases.

We can agree to pay nothing more than what we have decided at present unless and until the management recognise its own responsibility in this matter. In regard to the direct payment, Government can pay what they intend to pay directly or indirectly as they like.

MR. E. P. VARGHESE: Is it not a distrust on the part of the managers?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Absolutely no distrust whatsoever. All are honest people and there is no distrust. What the Government insist is that the teachers should receive directly the whole of what the Government are prepared to pay. Otherwise, complaints would be received that the whole of the amount has not been paid, and the Director would be compelled to enquire into these matters wasting much of his time. We have received letters from the managements that they are very honest and they do not allow the right hand to know what the left hand does. It is very difficult for Government to come to a final decision whether the teachers employed under such managements should be left out of consideration or whether the whole amount should be paid to the teachers independently. All these are matters which are engaging the attention of Government.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: What control has the manager over these teachers?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The managers will continue to appoint teachers. The managers will continue to exercise day-to-day supervision. The managers will continue to mete out all punishments including dismissal of the teachers for neglect of duty.

PRESIDENT: Before putting this motion to vote there are three points which I wish to make absolutely clear. Firstly it is not the object of this Government to cast any aspersions upon the management of any institution in this State. Secondly it is not the object of this Government and it is not even their practical programme in the next few years to take up compulsory primary education in the whole State. All that I look forward to as a result of the deliberations of the Committee is that in urban areas compulsory primary education should be taken up immediately or as soon as possible after the war. I want to make it perfectly clear that this State, at all events, does not propose to act under totalitarian influences and we do not want any supervision or control of schools or primary schools. We are perfectly prepared to have the present managements continue their schools. We are perfectly prepared to avoid the exercise of disciplinary jurisdiction. We do not want, in the words of Mr. Varghese, that this measure should undermine the strength of the managements or annihilate the schools. We do not want to deprive managements of initiative and discretion nor are private schools intended to be treated as Government schools. All that we desire to see is that the teachers to-day do not starve. They must be paid. The question is how they are to be paid. It has come to the knowledge of Government in many cases that what was originally intended as a half-grant towards the pay of the primary school teacher was not used in that way. It was taken for granted that a primary school teacher should get rupees sixteen, and Government intended to pay one-half of that amount. But few of them get more than eight rupees. Now Government are anxious on account of the special circumstances that the primary school teachers should be given a war allowance and they are prepared to give two rupees while they hope that the management will give two more rupees. Government in that way do not want to exercise any coercive influence over the private school managers. It is open to them to say. "We do not want a grant from Government. We shall make our own arrangement for the payment of war allowance to the teachers and they are quite content with what we pay." But if they want the grant we cannot make any distinction for them. Ecclesiastical dignataries like the Archbishop are above suspicion. Great corporations like the Nayar Service Society and S. N. D. P. Yogam are also above suspicion. But we cannot make any difference between the S. N. D. P. Yogam or any other Ezhava organisation. The question is, therefore, whether any rule should be laid down for the payment of war allowance which would apply to all the primary schools without exception.

The motion was put to vote and carried.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I demand a poll.

A poll was taken and the House divided as follows:—

AYES—33.

1 Sadasyatilaka T. K. Velu Pillai
2 Mr. S. Chattanatha Karayalar
3 Mr. S. Narayana Pillai
4 Mr. K. Kunju Panickar
5 Mr. K. P. Kochukora Tharakan
6 Mr. Menatheri N. Kesava Panicker
7 Mr. M. Bhaskaran Nair
8 Mr. G. Velu Pillai
9 Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai
10 Mr. P. C. Adichan
11 Mr. T. T. Kesavan Sastri
12 Mr. Codiveetil C. Ramankunju
13 Mr. A. K. Kumaran Vaidyan
14 Mr. Kaviyoor K. K. Kochukunju
15 Mr. N. Velu Asari
16 Mr. Thamarappallil Kochuthommen
17 Mr. P. Vivekanandam
18 Mr. M. Ramiah Pillai
19 Mr. Varkala K. Madhavan
20 Mr. P. Narayana Pillai
21 Mr. M. R. Narayana Pillai
22 Mr. N. Narayana Kurup
23 Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai
24 Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai
25 Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai
26 Mr. E. E. Pandarathil
27 Mr. P. Sivarama Pillai
28 Mr. K. C. Karunakaran
29 Mr. Kottalil P. Abraham
30 Sahib Bahadur P. S. Mahomed
31 Mr. K. R. Narayanan
32 Mr. C. Ramaswami Nadar
33 Mr. Kannanthodath Janardhanan Nair

NOES—3.

1 Mr. K. Dominic Joseph
2 Mr. E. P. Varghese
3 Mr. C. Jebamony Nadar

NEUTRALS—18.

1 Rajyasevapravina G. Parameswaran Pillai
2 Mr. N. K. Narayana Pillai
3 Rajyasevapravina A. Lakshmi Narayana Ayyar
4 Mr. A. Gopala Menon
5 Mr. I. C. Chacko
6 Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker
7 Mr. K. R. Narayana Iyer
8 Mr. P. G. Narayanan Unnithan
9 Dr. H. Parameswaran
10 Rao Bahadur T. V. Venkateswara Iyer
11 Mr. M. L. De'cruz
12 Mr. D. Francis
13 Mr. P. V. Mathai Chemparathy
14 Mr. K. S. Sebastian
15 Mr. J. W. Tolson
16 Mr. D. C. Joseph
17 Mr. P. Kunjukrishan
18 Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai

The motion was declared carried, 33 voting *for*, 3 *against* and 18 remaining neutral.

The House adjourned at 5·25 P. M.

B. PARAMU,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.